

FREE

Kent on Sunday

www.kentnews.co.uk June 22, 2014

Mid Edition No 613

NEWS »

Hospice chief resigns amid row

Quits after U-turn on
closure plans

ECONOMY »

Brace yourself for interest hike

Bank of England economist
explains road to recovery

SPORT »

Six of the best: Sir Garfield Sobers

We meet legendary
West Indies cricket star

CONSUMER »

The food miles 'myth'

Why there is more to consider than
distance between field and plate

DOVER to CALAIS



16 crossings a day. From just **£19** car + 9 people each way.*


MYFERRYLINK

Owned and run by the crew

MYFERRYLINK.COM

0844 2482 100

*When booked as part of a 3 day short break. Book by 29/06/14 for travel by 30/06/14. Price subject to availability and may be withdrawn at any time. Terms and conditions apply. See myferrylink.com for details.

The **best** garage is a **safe** one



Security, convenience & reliability

When it comes to remote controlled rolling garage door systems, Essati is a leader in innovation and quality.

Since 1995 Essati has been an inventive roller shutter garage door company catering for the needs of the residential market place.

In 2006 Essati introduced the insulated aluminium rolling garage door system, a sleek and beautiful modern rollerdoor of superior quality, conveniently operated by a small hand held key fob. This system combines security, convenience and reliability, with a beautiful stylish door of infinity, and it's completely maintenance free!

ESSATI

www.essatigaragedoors.co.uk

01622 765993

Remote controlled insulated aluminium rolling garage door

**JUST
£699**
inc vat & fitting

Kent on Sunday

Sister title of KENT LIFE

www.kentnews.co.uk

It may be torture but watching England is getting a little better

WATCHING England in the World Cup is normally akin to spending 90 minutes tied to a chair while someone rams sharp splinters under your fingernails; it's an uncomfortable, painful experience and when it comes to an end the overriding feeling is of relief mingled with a vow never to put yourself through that torture again.

So there's a little part of me which is rather looking forward to watching the rest of what has been a fascinating tournament without having to fret about England's performance.

However, we can take a lot of pride in the side's displays so far. We look a much brighter, more attack-minded outfit, and while lacking some world class clout, in Roy Hodgson I feel our future suggests some salvation.

Which makes Roy's incredible rise from non-league football in Kent to England head



Editor **Chris Britcher**

coach, all the more remarkable. What's more it should remind everyone that if the expense of going to Premier League football is beyond them, then you never know what future big name you'll come across when you go and cheer on your local non-league team.

Roy actually manages to unite the game from top to bottom and that's something hopefully which will benefit the game going forward.

Staying on a sporting theme, Wimbledon begins on Monday, ushering in a fascinating fortnight at SW19. Inside this issue we

tackle the big issue - just what is the best Kent strawberry to enjoy while watching Andy Murray's defence of his crown? It's a guide you can't afford not to read.

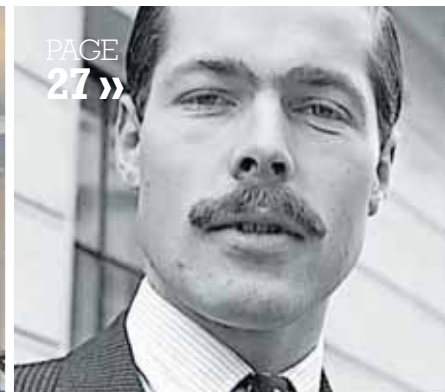
It also sits alongside a fascinating article on the food miles debate which is an eye-opener. Enjoy the sport and your weekend.



PAGE
12 »



PAGE
16 »



PAGE
27 »



PAGE
33 »



PAGE
54 »

Contents

News

5 U-turn on bed closures

Hospice chief to step down after rethink

11 Financially interesting

Rates will have to rise says top economist

12 How we all went Dotty

Demelza gets boost as county raises cash

16 Recalling the Great War

Folkestone's vital role told by exhibitions

19 Food miles in the spotlight

Myth debunked as experts expose flaws

25 Lord Lucan, truth at last?

Did peer hide at two of our hotels in escape?

The Arts

29 Passion for rural life

Artist Rebecca Day tells of love for county

33 Festival hits new heights

Fuse Medway Festival proves a big hit



PAGE
54

Motability

47 Getting the right vehicle

Enabling disabled to be independent on road

Sport

44 Cricketing great speaks

Sir Garfield Sobers still bowling them over...

Plus

Seven days Pages 5-7

Food & Drink Page 34

Feedback Page 36

Images of Kent Page 37

Motors Page 43

Appointments Page 52

HOW TO CONTACT US...

Publisher: Simon Irwin

Email simon.irwin@archant.co.uk

Editor: Chris Britcher

Email chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

Address:

Apple Barn, Smeeth, TN25 6SS

Editorial: News: 01303 817100

Leisure: 01303 817022

Sport: 01303 817177

Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Advertising:

Jobs/Notices: 01303 817056:

Business: 01303 817056

Email appointments@kosmedia.co.uk

Retail/Leisure/Motors: 01303 817150

Email sales@kosmedia.co.uk

Distribution: 01303 817072

FOLLOW US ONLINE @

- kentnews.co.uk
- kentnews.co.uk/mobile
- jobsforkent.co.uk
- homes24.co.uk
- drive24.co.uk
- [twitter@kosmedia](https://twitter.com/kosmedia)

Published in Kent and printed by Archant Print, division of Archant Community Media Limited (Co Reg No 19300). Registered Office: Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE

ARCHANT Inspiring Communities

DID YOU KNOW, BRITELITE'S

AS SEEN ON TV

TRIPLE GLAZING

**... is ready whatever
the weather?**

**It saves you energy and money
when its cold, it looks good ... and
keeps your house secure too!**

A Britelite window is the most beautiful addition you can make to your home, and what's more, we fit Triple Glazing as standard. Britelite windows will add value to your property when the time comes to sell. With an enormous range of colours, styles, shapes and sizes to choose from, a Britelite window will perfectly complement your home.

**Some kind
words ...
Received from
our customers
last month**

**"The work was carried out on time and efficiently
by very friendly staff."**
Mrs Bullock, Sidcup

**"I know it was a while ago now, but the job was done
in a very quick and professional manner."**
Mr Dickinson, London

**"Clean and considerate, the fitter worked all day
without a break, a pleasure to have in our home
and finished the job on time."**
Mr Cooper, Sandwich

**"Telesales staff, a pleasure to deal with, fitters
have been pleasant and helpful. Can't fault the
workmanship, cleaned up and tidied as they went
along. Proper job."** Mrs Hichens, Maidstone

**"What was good with the sales representative was
the fact he gave us no rubbish "I'm going to ring
my manager". We will come back for that alone.
The fitting team were professional and polite and
got on with the job."** Mrs Boylett, Sussex

**"Fitters were courteous and helpful, answered
any questions or queries, kept site as clean and
tidy as possible. Many thanks for a good service."**
Mrs Murphy, Maidstone

**"Fantastic product, high quality finish, fitters very
professional, very tidy. It has transformed our
house, should have replaced our tired conservatory
years ago. Would highly recommend to everyone.
Thank you"** Mr Poulter, Sittingbourne

**WITH
45%
OFF***
ALL WINDOWS
THIS SUMMER

**Britelite is now a
Which? Trusted Trader**

Which?
Trusted trader



BRITELITE

Windows, Doors & Conservatories

Showrooms throughout the South East

Call Free 0800 50 50 70

**Visit our website for a FREE online quote
www.britelitewindows.co.uk**

*Off list price for orders placed by midnight 29/6/2014. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Hospice chief falls on his sword after beds U-turn

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

TRUSTEES from the Pilgrims Hospice should consider stepping down, according to one vocal campaigner, after chief executive Steve Auty confirmed on Thursday he was to quit.

His decision comes amid one of the most controversial periods in the history of the popular hospice charity which has inpatient beds at sites in Canterbury, Ashford and Margate.

But it was the announcement it intended to phase out inpatient beds in Canterbury which sparked such a furious backlash and ultimately cost Mr Auty his job, despite the proposal ultimately being scrapped.

He had been with the charity for nine years, but will leave his post at the end of the month.

His announcement came less than a week after it confirmed the Canterbury beds would remain open beyond 2016, after a revolt by fundraisers and local people.

At one fraught public meeting, hundreds stood up and walked out in protest over the plans, which the hospice claimed was essential



STEPPING DOWN: Pilgrims Hospices CEO Steve Auty will leave his post at the end of the month

to help plug a £1 million shortfall and respond to changing demand for in-home care.

Peggy Pryer has been one of the most outspoken opponents of the closure plans.

She told KoS: "I don't think I'm surprised he went but he had no choice. He had to go.

"This gives the hospice the chance now to turn a new page after all that has happened recently. However, I would also say some of the other trustees ought to

consider their positions too. I assume the proposal to close the Canterbury beds was a corporate decision so more are responsible for all that has happened."

The manner of Mr Auty's departure will blot what was otherwise a success period in charge of the charity.

During his tenure, fund-raising has increased from £7m to £11m a year, the number of charity shops raising money for the hospice doubled, and the Hospice at Home

service was introduced.

In a statement for the hospice, it said: "Steve would like to give his heartfelt thanks to all of the staff, volunteers and supporters whose hard work and generosity have enabled all of this to happen.

"He remains passionate about the need for hospice care to be widely available to the people of east Kent both now and in the future."

The board of trustees said they gave their "heartfelt thanks" to Mr Auty.

GP confirms he's to quit after failing on all parts of watchdog inspection

THE GP at the centre of a scandal after health watchdog the Care Quality Commission (CQC) identified serious failings at his surgery, has announced he will be leaving the practice.

Dr Bijan Saha, 73, who works at the Lakeside Medical Centre in Todd Crescent, Church Milton, Sittingbourne, was found to be failing to provide adequate levels of care after he failed to meet any of the 11 standards the CQC checked during an unannounced inspection at his surgery in March this year.

It was the first time a doctor had ever failed to meet all of the required standards during one inspection.

The CQC criticised him for a variety of substandard practices with one patient reporting that Dr Saha had taken a mobile phone call from another patient during their consultation and another that he had prescribed insulin to a non-diabetic.

It said, in the aftermath of the report, it would be taking action

against the GP, although Michele Golden, head of GP inspection in the south, said that they could not "discuss the nature of that action any further at this stage for legal reasons".

As a result of the damning report, four new partners will take over the practice on June 28. Dr Saha has subsequently stepped down and will officially retire on June 29.

A spokesperson for NHS England (Kent and Medway) said: "All GP practices must provide safe, high-quality care to their patients and meet all essential standards in managing services at their surgeries.

"Dr Saha and other local GPs have written to us to confirm their intention to enter into a partnership arrangement that will provide new clinical leadership for the practice.

"We are now reviewing the full findings of the CQC report and will take any further action necessary to ensure all patients registered at the Lakeside Medical Centre receive the high standard of care they deserve."

World Cup kicks off sharp rise in domestic abuse cases

THE number of cases of domestic abuse showed a worrying – yet expected – rise last weekend after England lost 2-1 to Italy in their first World Cup.

Major football tournaments are frequently a trigger for such behaviour and police are determined to crack down hard on those committing the crime and to ensure victims know how to seek help and assistance.

Last weekend, police in Kent responded to an extra 21 reports of domestic abuse, compared to the weekend before.

Historic analysis showed it was usual for there to be a rise of up to 10 per cent during events like the tournament.

Victims should report violence to the police. To find details of the support agencies visit www.domesticabuseservices.org.uk.

Animal cruelty convictions increasing, confirms RSPCA

THE RSPCA has confirmed the number of people convicted of animal cruelty in the county is on the rise – and is second only to London in the number of cases in the south east.

The figures show that last year 65 people were convicted – up from 62 the previous 12 months.

They were released as part of the charity's Prosecution Annual Report, which highlights the

cases which the RSPCA helped to bring to court.

RSPCA superintendent for the region Paul Stilgoe said: "The UK is known as a nation of animal lovers and yet once again we have seen some truly heartbreaking sights this year, and animals suffering in horrific ways.

"We are still seeing far too many horrendous cases of cruelty."



» Download your free **Kent News iPhone** and **iPad App** available at the Apple App Store



» Follow us on Twitter @kosmedia or Facebook **KOS Media**



» Download your free **Kent News iPhone** and **iPad App** available at the Apple App Store



» Follow us on Twitter @kosmedia or Facebook **KOS Media**

Relief for roads with £6m pothole repair fund

KENT County Council has been handed a further £6 million from central government coffers in its on-going fight to fix potholes on our roads.

The money is part of an emergency fund worth almost £168m set up by government after the wettest winter on record left the county's roads in tatters.

Kent's share – some £6,295,590 – is the largest slice of the funding in the south east region.

The Department for Transport has estimated that 118,000 potholes can be fixed across Kent with the money – based on a cost of £53 per filled pothole.

The Government will require KCC to publish quarterly updates on how many potholes have been filled as part of the conditions for the funding.

KCC's David Brazier said: "The roads took a battering and government has recognised this."



STILL HOPING: Manston Airport

Probe after car invades Brands Hatch track after driving through security

By Maria Chiorando

maria.chiorando@archant.co.uk

A 21-YEAR-OLD was released earlier this week after being quizzed by police over a bizarre incident which saw a car apparently skip security to end up emerging from the pit lane on the famous Brands Hatch track in the middle of a race.

The incident took place during a race meeting at the West Kingsdown circuit last Saturday and made national headlines this week.

Not only was the bizarre sight of a road car on the circuit caught by those filming the race, but a passenger in the back of the car also captured what happened.

It was then posted on YouTube and as of Friday morning had been seen by nearly one million people.

The video appears to show the driver snaking through Brands Hatch security to find themselves in the pit lane, before entering onto the track which once hosted the British Formula One Grand Prix.



POLO: Car emerged on the track

The front seat passenger, a girl holding a pair of large pink glasses, is heard to plead with the driver to stop and appears to suggest the white VW Polo was hers. A friend in the back films it on his phone.

The car is then overtaken by competitors in the Fun Cup VW race taking place at the time. Competitors were then red flagged, telling them to stop the race after the invasion.

Race organisers, the British Racing & Sports Car Club (BRSCC), said: "During our race meeting, an unauthorised private car gained access to the circuit while the Fun Cup Championship race was in progress.

"The race was immediately red flagged and all cars left the circuit.

"Kent Police, the Motor Sports Association and circuit operators MotorSport Vision are conducting an inquiry and we are of course fully cooperating with them.

"Until the outcome of the inquiry is known the club won't be making any further comment."

On Monday, police confirmed they had arrested a 21-year-old from Tonbridge in relation to the incident, accused of false imprisonment.

He was, however, released on bail on Tuesday morning.

He will report back on July 24 pending further investigations.

Pressure on a CPO grows for shut airport

US INVESTMENT firm RiverOak has held talks with politicians and the aviation minister this week in an effort to finally secure ownership of Manston Airport.

And it appears increasing pressure is mounting on Thanet District Council to serve a compulsory purchase order on the site so it can then be sold to the US firm – despite major concerns over the use of public money to acquire a commercial operation which has repeatedly failed to prove viable.

RiverOak met with Thanet Conservative MPs Sir Roger Gale and Laura Sandys, as well as aviation minister Robert Goodwill, at the House of Commons.

Manston is currently owned by multimillionaire Ann Gloag, with fears she may opt to sell it for housing.

A joint statement by the MPs said: "It is clear RiverOak are committed in their determination to acquire Manston and operate it as an airport.

"There are, of course, obstacles to be overcome and much will depend upon the ability of Thanet council to bring a compulsory purchase order to a satisfactory conclusion."

The council is seeking legal advice over the CPO option. See facing page for more Manston news.

Broadband boost for our rural networks

HOMES and businesses in rural areas and unable to access the new generation of superfast broadband services are set for a boost after the Government announced it would be awarding almost £1 million to internet provider MLL Telecom.

It will receive £957,000 to deliver faster speeds. It intends to do so by aggregating lots of small wireless networks.

The money has come from a £10m government pot set up to take superfast broadband to the most rural parts of the UK.

In March 2013, Kent County Council announced that they were aiming to bring broadband to 90 per cent of the county by 2015.

Culture secretary Sajid Javid said: "We want to extend coverage beyond the 95 per cent of the UK we are on track to deliver by 2017."

Rural affairs minister Dan Rogerson said: "Fast and reliable broadband revolutionises everything, from how we work and play."

Major housing plans for former quarry site

REVISED plans for nearly 1,000 homes on a former chalk quarry near Dartford have been submitted.

The 870 homes will be joined by 1,200 sq m of 'retail and community infrastructure' which will include a new primary school. The development is planned for St James Pit in Stone.

Also known as Stone Pit 2, for the last 10 years the site has been filled in to provide the foundation for the proposed development.

Although that period is not yet complete, the site is sufficiently full to embark on a first phase of development. Dartford Borough Council will rule on the plans on July 9.

The scheme aims to "create a development that positively connects and integrates with the surrounding community, with an emphasis on the creation of high-quality landscape, open space, and strong pedestrian and cycle links".

These revised plans follow an application in 2008, proposing up to 1,000 homes.

Identity crooks target your rubbish bags

IDENTITY crooks are believed to have been rummaging through bin sacks in Medway, prompting police to issue a warning to take extra care with sensitive documents.

Police stepped up patrols during the week in Gillingham amid a rise in the number of bags apparently being tampered with.

Officers fear the opportunists are hoping to find documents and information to allow them to set up bogus identities and accounts in their name.

Victims in the past have found themselves with huge debts after accounts are set up in their name by the criminals.

Police say everyone should guard against such behaviour by ensuring all documents containing information such as name, address and bank details, for example, are shredded.

Theft of paper documents had been less popular in recent years, as online identity theft has been on the rise. Many fall victim by going to fake websites designed to deceive.

agenda

What will make next week's headlines...

Have your say on key health care reforms

YOU have until Friday to have your say on the future of community and hospital care in the county.

The issues up for discussion will form a new three-year strategy for health and social care and the public has until June 27 to make sure their voices are heard.

The priorities outlined in the strategy could lead to a significant

change in the way people are cared for, with more community-based services meaning a reduced dependence on acute hospital beds and a greater emphasis on GP surgeries, care at home and community inpatient beds.

Roger Gough, chairman of the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board, and Kent County Council cabinet



member for health reform, said: "It is crucial that in all we do, we stay focused on making sure services respond to the needs of residents and communities."

See www.kent.gov.uk/health.

Flying school launches Manston legal challenge

A FLYING school based at Manston Airport is to take the Thanet airfield's owners to the High Court this week.

TG Aviation is seeking an injunction from the court to allow it to continue to use Manston as its base.

Since the airport closed last month, the firm has been forced to move to Lydd.

A spokesman for TG Aviation said: "We are a family company who have operated at the airport for more than 30 years.

"We were devastated when the airport closed, and we want to see it reopened."

The case against Kent Facilities Ltd – which owns the airport site – will begin on Friday, June 27.

...also

Riverside regeneration

MEDWAY councillors will discuss the latest updates on the Rochester Riverside masterplan following a public consultation which concluded earlier this month.

The issues will be chewed over by the council's regeneration, community and culture overview and scrutiny committee.

Weighing up the issues

THE second annual International Weight Stigma Conference is to be held at the University of Kent on Tuesday, June 24.

The conference, which brings together experts and academics from around the globe, aims to invite discussion about the social implications of being overweight.

Cashing in on property

LANDLORDS can attend a free seminar in Orpington on Wednesday aimed at helping them make the most of their buy-to-let investment.

The event takes place at the Andrews agency in the High Street between 7-8pm. Doors open at 6.30pm.

Sports centre unveiled

SPORTS minister and Maidstone MP Helen Grant will open a major new sports centre in Medway on Friday.

She will cut the ribbon at the King's Rochester Sports Centre, formerly the Stirling Centre, following its £500,000 refurbishment.

calligaris

Park Table

New Italian manufactured extending dining table in a choice of colour and finishes (chairs and matching furniture available at sale prices).

Was £2,437 SALE £2,075



THE SUMMER SALE


LENLEYS

01227 766 655
www.lenleys.co.uk

FURNITURE | BEDS | CURTAINS | FLOORING | ACCESSORIES

Celebrate in Style

Our new *Champagne Lounge Bar*,
NOW OPEN

Whatever your event we can cater for you in our newly refurbished function room,
Please call to enquire about our package prices

Red Lion

Circa 1364

Crockham Lane, Hernhill, Kent, ME13 9JR

01227 751207

www.theredlion.org

He may not be a name familiar to many, but as a member of the Monetary Policy Committee, economist Ian McCafferty has an important influence on the UK's economy. On a recent visit to Kent, **Sarah Linney** caught up with him to find out how the Bank of England aims to guide us back to stability

AS THE economy finally shows signs of revival after one of the most prolonged slumps in history, it seems the long expected interest rate rise is fast approaching on the horizon.

And one of the nation's most senior and influential economists insists this increase will be an essential part of the economic recovery.

Any rise will be a benefit to those with savings and, perhaps more significantly, herald a price hike in mortgages for thousands across Kent.

Speaking to KoS after a whistle-stop visit to Thanet, the Bank of England's Ian McCafferty – who sits on its Monetary Policy Committee which determines the level of interest rates – says the gradual recovery seen so far looks set to continue.

He said: "There has been a strong pick up in the economy over the last 12 months, which looks set to continue into the autumn."

Prior to joining the Bank of England, Mr McCafferty had been chief economic adviser to the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) for more than 10 years.

He added: "We have now had four quarters of economic growth across the country, sharp falls in unemployment and a sharp rise in the number of jobs created."

"The recovery is becoming more stable, although there are risks that might knock us off course."

"Inflation is relatively benign and over the next couple of years should be sticking close to the two per cent target for that period."

He was in Kent to address the East Kent Banking, Finance and Investment Conference – a gathering of local politicians and businesspeople to discuss economic and financial issues, organised by the Dover and Thanet chambers of commerce.

The day before, the Governor of the Bank of England, Mark Carney, had said interest rates could rise "sooner than markets currently expect".

Many economists believe that could be as early as the end of the year.

Interest rates have been artificially low since the economy crashed in 2008. At just 0.5 per cent, they are the lowest in its history.

But while a rise would underline a renewed confidence in the economy, many say they are yet to feel any benefit, with wages so far failing to keep pace with the cost of living.

Mr McCafferty explained: "Real incomes are still being squeezed and people are not feeling a lot better off."

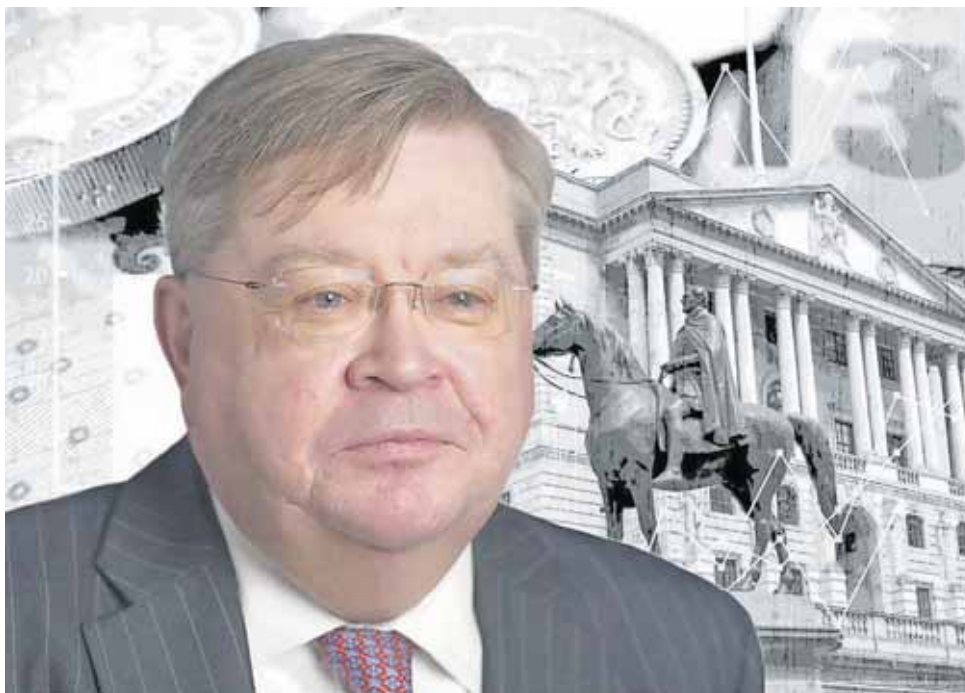
"I anticipate we will see slightly faster wage growth over the next couple of years. At the moment wage growth is roughly in line with inflation and the number of pay freezes occurring throughout the economy is declining quite rapidly."

While savers will finally start to see more of a return if interest rates rise, the rise in many people's mortgages will put further pressure on pockets.

However, Mr McCafferty says an increase is a necessary measure to stop the economy running wild.

The balancing act is to keep the economy growing, but ensure it is closely monitored and controlled to

Interest rate hike essential for recovery, says Bank of England decision-maker



HIGHS AND LOWS: Bank of England's Ian McCafferty was in east Kent to speak to politicians and businesspeople

prevent sudden growth leading to dramatic inflation and the problems that can cause.

The economist added: "As the economy strengthens, we arrive at full employment and the economy is running as fast as it is able to."

"Wages start to go up, the cost of production starts to go up, and we would be seeing inflation higher than the target."

"The interest rate is the cost of money – the higher the rate, the less people want to borrow, and the more

they want to save. So that regulates the amount of spending."

"It controls the rate of growth so the economy can grow as fast as it is able to without generating inflation. We move interest rates up and down through the economic cycle to try to deliver the right inflation rates."

He pointed out that interest rates had been artificially low during the recession, so any rise is not so much a punitive hike as a return to normal.

"Before the crisis, for about 20 years, the Bank of England base rate was about five per cent," he said.

"Where we are at now, at 0.5 per cent, is not what you would call normal and we will have to start bringing them back to a more normal level."

"But we think there are some very good reasons why for a number of years yet they will be materially lower than that."

The Government's target for inflation is two per cent.

Mr McCafferty said: "The economy functions most efficiently if inflation is low and stable."

"If we had zero inflation, some prices would be rising, so it would mean some prices were falling."

“Where we are at now, at 0.5 per cent, is not what you would call normal and we will have to start bringing them back to a more normal level”

Ian McCafferty, who sits Bank of England's monetary committee

MONEY MATTERS

THE Bank of England's interest rate is set by its Monetary Policy Committee, a group of experts in economics and financial policy.

The committee is made up of nine members: the governor, two deputy governors for monetary policy and financial stability, the chief economist, the executive director for markets, and four independent members appointed by Chancellor George Osborne.

The committee meet every month to set the interest rate. Each member has a vote to set interest rates at the level they believe is best and will allow the inflation target to be met.

Members are briefed extensively on the economy throughout the month by Bank of England staff.

A representative from the Treasury also sits with the committee at its meetings to discuss policy, although they are not allowed to vote.

Mr McCafferty has been a member of the committee since September 2012, before which he was chief economic advisor to the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) for 11 years.

Previous roles include head of macroeconomics at BP, chief international economist for both Natwest Markets and Baring Securities and head of economic trends at the CBI.

He is a Fellow of the Society of Business Economists and the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacturers and Commerce, and a graduate of Durham University.

for the housing market.

"This is designed to control the burgeoning housing market, but not to stifle it," he said.

"We may all have what we would wish for; a stable market, with modest growth. If this is achieved we will be able to plan our futures, whereas in recent years we have all had to suffer the effects of sudden boom and busts. Let's hope the governor of the Bank of England continues to have a steady hand."

"Two per cent is low enough that we are not eroding savings."

He says that an interest rate rise shouldn't happen immediately – or be dramatic when it does.

"I still think there's a bit of time – we can allow the economy to grow and unemployment to drop before it's necessary to increase interest rates," Mr McCafferty said.

"And we hope it will be only gradual."

"When it will happen very much depends on how the economy performs and whether it grows."

"What we are trying to do is control the economy, allow it to go a little further, and try to avoid disruptive and damaging increases which will be bad for businesses."

The biggest impact of an interest rate will be felt in the troubled property market.

House prices are once again on the rise, caused by so few homes going on the market – a problem caused by banks tightening their requirements on who they lend to.

Chris Doe, group manager at estate agents Simon Miller, said an interest rate rise could actually be good

Johnson's

Est. 1960
Garden Buildings



FREE
Home site surveys
available

*Add value to your house, get that much needed extra room,
escape the stresses of everyday life, chill-out and relax.*

Discover Outdoor Space.....

'Hempstead' double glazed 4m x 3m, 35mm
Installed (silver package) from only



£3799

'Delta' single glazed corner cabin
Installed (silver package) from only



£2649

'Eldorado' double glazed a massive 6m x 5m
Installed (silver package) from only



£8199

Some available options include:

Upgraded roof to tile effect shingles, insulated roof/floor, electrical packages, laminate floor.

+ an incredible 30% off all upgrade options!

Visit our website or call us now for a brochure
www.needextraspacespace.co.uk 0845 4599444

FIVE DISPLAY VILLAGES ACROSS KENT

Johnsons Nursery,
Old Thanet Way,
Chestfield,
Kent,
CT5 3JD
01227 793717
chestfield@
needextraspacespace.co.uk

Polhill Garden Centre,
London Road, Halstead,
Sevenoaks,
Kent, TN14 7AD
Car Park B
01959 533466
polhill@
needextraspacespace.co.uk

Newnham Court
Shopping Village,
Bearstead Rd, Maidstone,
Kent, ME14 5LH
at rear of Notcutts
01622 730777
maidstone@
needextraspacespace.co.uk

Bybrook Barn
Garden Centre,
Canterbury Road,
Ashford, Kent,
TN24 9JZ
01233 878412
ashford@
needextraspacespace.co.uk

Elm Court Garden Centre,
Capstone Road,
Gillingham,
Kent,
ME7 3JQ
01634 405859
gillingham@
needextraspacespace.co.uk

'Staycation' if you can't get passport suggests MP after jaunt to World Cup

No stranger to controversy, Maidstone MP and tourism minister Helen Grant has landed herself in hot water again after saying those in passport backlog should stay home, writes **Chris Murphy**



THOUGHTFUL?
Helen Grant's suggestion has been attacked by her many critics

SPORTS and tourism minister and Maidstone MP Helen Grant flew back into the UK on Friday after a trip to Brazil for the Fifa World Cup, and straight into a row over comments she made about the current passport fiasco.

With major delays for holidaymakers receiving their essential travel documents, Mrs Grant appeared to suggest the solution was simply to take a holiday closer to home.

Critics have rounded on her, saying it was condescending to make such comments as she had just returned from South America having watched England's defeat to Uruguay on Thursday night.

While the Tory minister's office claims she has been "stitched up", those close to her say the comments have been taken out of context by a national media keen on damage the MP's reputation.

But her comments will inflame an already delicate situation which has left many senior politicians with a headache and caused heartache for thousands of people faced with the prospect of having to cancel their trips abroad.

HM Passport Office continues to struggle with a massive backlog of documents – some 30,000 applications have still not been sorted out.

Home Secretary Theresa May has already apologised for the problems and instructed that all urgent applications are fast-tracked through the system.

The Passport Office, which has its headquarters in Liverpool, says it is dealing with the highest surge in applications in 12 years, and as a

Stitched up? You decide...

The questions posed by The House magazine to Helen Grant - and her responses - are as follows:

Q With the row going on now with the passports is that a good opportunity for you to remind people that if they are struggling to get passports they can avoid the hassle and just holiday in the UK?

HG It's about choice at the end of the day – people should do what they want.

I would have to say I grew up in Cumbria just on the edge of the Lake District and my constituency is the heart of the

Garden of England.

I'm probably biased, but I think those two areas are two jewels in a very rich crown. There's a lot to be said for the staycation I think people want to do what they like.

I think we are going to have a great summer, we are certainly going to have a great summer of sport too, there's lots of opportunities to build your holiday around a spoilt-for-choice list of events, the Tour de France Grand Depart, we've got the

golf, we've got the Commonwealth Games, we've got football that we can watch on the TV. It's a wonderful place to have your holiday.

Q So if you don't get your passport it's not the end of the world?

HG Well I'm sure you will do, I'm very confident, I have no doubt you will do. But if you don't want to go away we have some fantastic holidays here.

consequence there were backlogs.

In an interview with political magazine The House, Mrs Grant said she was confident the passports would be forthcoming, adding: "But if you don't want to go away, we have some fantastic holidays here."

"I think there's a lot to be said for the 'staycation'. People need to do what they like."

"I think we are going to have a great summer, we are certainly going to have a great summer of sport too, there's lots of opportunities to build your holiday around a spoilt-for-choice list of events, the Tour de France Grand Depart, we've got the

golf, we've got the Commonwealth Games, we've got football that we can watch on the TV. It's a wonderful place to have your holiday."

But her comments – which appear misjudged rather than ill-informed – have once again provided ammunition to her political rivals.

One of the most vocal has been Jasper Gerard, the Lib Dem parliamentary candidate who will stand against Mrs Grant for the Maidstone and the Weald seat at the 2015 General Election.

He said: "Perhaps Helen Grant should practice what she preaches."

"While Yalding recovered from

devastating floods, Helen Grant visited the Sochi Winter Olympics in Russia... twice.

"Can she tell us if she is sacrificing her foreign holiday this year out of sympathy for local people let down by the passport system?"

"Of course people want to go away – that's why they apply for passports."

The minister has a home in Marden for constituency visits, and Mr Gerard quipped: "There are indeed many wonderful places to visit in the UK, but that should be a choice for each individual."

"If Helen Grant is considering a 'staycation' this year, she would find

our beautiful Wealden villages such as Marden lovely at this time of year.

"She would discover plenty of new attractions to explore."

A spokesman for the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, said Mrs Grant was merely answering a question on the subject of a staycation.

They added: "Helen Grant was crystal clear she was confident people would get their passports to be able to travel overseas."

"As tourism minister it is completely right she champions the domestic tourism market, but she was in no way linking the two issues."

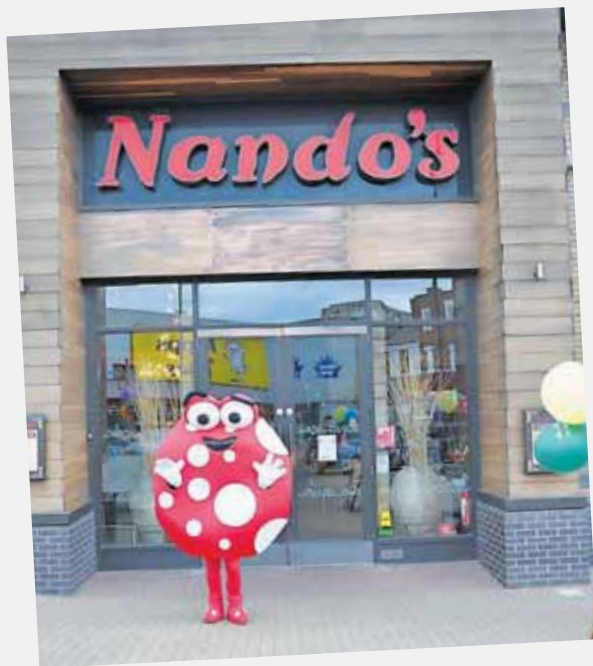
However, it is not the first time Mrs Grant has provided the opportunity to be shot at by her rivals.

She has previously been embroiled in an expenses row, a dispute over staff contracts at her office, and was left red-faced after a TV news reporter from Meridian posed a host of simple sports questions to her last year – which included who won the FA Cup and who was the England Rugby Union captain – only for her to fail on every one.

In 2010, Mrs Grant replaced Ann Widdecomb in the Maidstone constituency, fending off a challenge from the Lib Dems many expected she would lose to.

However, she won a strong majority and became the Tory's first black female MP and is favourably thought of by Prime Minister David Cameron.

■ **What do you think? Join the debate and share your views. Write to: The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS. Or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk**



Dotty enjoyed a Nando's during fund-raising...



...and joined Southeastern rail staff who walked 30 miles for hospice...



...alongside wearers of silly hats



...and a charity football match

County goes Dotty for Demelza

Fund-raisers are spot on as children's hospice benefits from public's generosity. **Sarah Linney** reports

SHAVED heads, 30-mile walks and silly hats were on the agenda across Kent during Demelza children's hospice's Go Dotty week.

The charity's annual polka-dot-themed fund-raising and awareness campaign ran last week from Friday to Friday, coinciding with Children's Hospice Week, and fund-raisers were encouraged to hold dot-themed events, from cake sales to dressing up.

Some £9 million is needed every year to fund Demelza's work with children with severe disabilities or terminal illnesses.

Railway staff from Southeastern

raised £5,700 through a 30-mile sponsored walk from Dartford station to London Victoria, accompanied by Demelza's corporate partnerships manager Donna Wells.

Birchington singing group Blend sang non-stop for 16 hours. Deal Town Football Club held a fun day and played a charity match against the hospice, and a sponsored Bokwa exercise class in Bobbing village hall, with participants dressed in red and white or dots, raised £100.

Staff at the hospice in Bobbing, near Sittingbourne, held a dotty hat competition. Demelza's charity shops put up dotty window displays, and

Herne Bay shop manager Sue Smy and Sittingbourne volunteer Kim Goodwill shaved their heads.

Demelza's mascot, Dotty, travelled around Kent to visit fund-raisers and supporters, including Nando's in Bromley, which held a dotty day, and the Kent on Sunday offices.

Natwest Bank and Charlton Football Club also took part, while high-street bakers Greggs had a dotty cookie on sale.

The hospice provides respite care for children and their families, at-home care and end-of-life care and support for families who have lost a child.

COOKBOOK HAS STAR INGREDIENT

A CELEBRITY chef, a radio presenter and a former pop star are among the contributors to Demelza's first cookbook.

Come Dine with Demelza features recipes from TV chef Richard Phillips, who runs three restaurants in the county including Thackeray's in Tunbridge Wells; Capital FM presenter Dave Berry, who opened the hospice's play area; Bucks Fizz star Cheryl Baker, who lives in Tunbridge Wells; and Dancing on Ice head

judge Robin Cousins, along with staff, volunteers, supporters and young people from the hospice.

Mr Phillips, who has appeared on Ready Steady Cook and Saturday Kitchen and has written the foreword, launched the book at his newest restaurant, The Windmill in Hollingbourne, on Thursday.

The book is being sold in the charity's shops and through its fund-raising department to raise money for the hospice.



HM
HURST MEWS
CHISLEHURST

All imagery is illustrative and may vary from shown. Available incentives are subject to reservation criteria, scheme approval and restrictions (including the Government Help to Buy scheme) and can be development specific, please ask our Sales Consultants for more information.

OPENING SOON



A superb development of 2, 3 & 4 bedroom homes in Chislehurst, Kent

Hurst Mews
Bushell Way, Chislehurst
Bromley BR7 6SF

Register Your Interest
0333 321 8906
hurstmews@croudacehomes.co.uk



Croudace
HOMES.CO.UK



Established 1981
SupaGlazing
 Limited
Over 55,000 customers!

Introducing the... **Supa Diamond**

A rated, **ANY** size, **ANY** number
 of openers, White UPVC

DOUBLE GLAZED

4	WINDOWS £1,512. ⁰⁰ <small>inc VAT</small>
5	WINDOWS £1,890. ⁰⁰ <small>inc VAT</small>
6	WINDOWS £2,268. ⁰⁰ <small>inc VAT</small>
7	WINDOWS £2,646. ⁰⁰ <small>inc VAT</small>

TRIPLE GLAZED

4	WINDOWS £1,891. ⁰⁰ <small>inc VAT</small>
5	WINDOWS £2,364. ⁰⁰ <small>inc VAT</small>
6	WINDOWS £2,836. ⁰⁰ <small>inc VAT</small>
7	WINDOWS £3,309. ⁰⁰ <small>inc VAT</small>

All inclusive of fitting, survey, guarantee & includes
 Pilkington Energikare saving glass. Did you know triple glazing
 only saves an extra 0.5% on average which is about £3 per year.

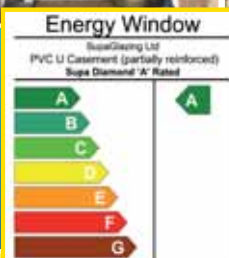
The choice is yours!



A Rated Windows

- Pilkington Optiwhite™ (outer pane)
- Argon gas filling with warm edge spacer
- Pilkington K Glass™ OW (inner pane)

A Rated Windows



**Celebrating over 33 years
 of beautiful windows...
 Guaranteed**

Finance available subject
 to status, written quotations
 available on request.



Hurry!
Offers end
8th
July

**Don't just
 glaze it,
 Supaglaze it!**

All of our installers are CRB checked.

Knight Road, Strood (opposite Morrisons)

01634 294 696

Open 6 days a week
 Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm

2 Roman Square, Sittingbourne
 13 Lowfield Street, Dartford

01795 422 877
01322 290 525

AS HEARD ON heart
1031 1023



FENSA
REGISTERED COMPANY



Profile: BS7950 BS7413
 Door Lock: BS3621
 Toughened Glass:
 BSEN12150-1

Factory awarded British Safety Council Safety Award: Every Year Since 1984

Head office and factories at Deacon Trading Centre, Knight Road, Strood.

www.supaglazing.com





Mercedes-Benz

**Service Care for your
Sprinter, Vito & Citan**



**Less Uncertainty, Cost and Hassle.
More Flexibility, Service and Care.**

We know it's important for you to be able to plan financially - and that unexpected servicing costs are something you'd rather do without.

It's a genuinely affordable option, with prices starting at just **£19.20 inc VAT** a month for three services.

What's included:

Routine service labour costs	■
Routine service parts	■
Routine service lubricants	■
Transferable to new owner when vehicle sold (if Plan paid for upfront)	■
Emergency road side assistance	△
Recovery to nearest Mercedes-Benz authorised repairer	△
Fast track preferential authorisation and processing	■
Monthly paid contract	■
Prepaid contract	■
Provision of replacement vehicle	△
Available on any vehicle age	■

■ Standard cover

△ Available free, for the first three years from registration date.

For any vehicles registered after 1 Oct 2012, cover is available for up to 30 years under MobiloVan UK and associated terms and conditions.

***Call us today and ask for Andy Clack
or find out more by visiting our website...***

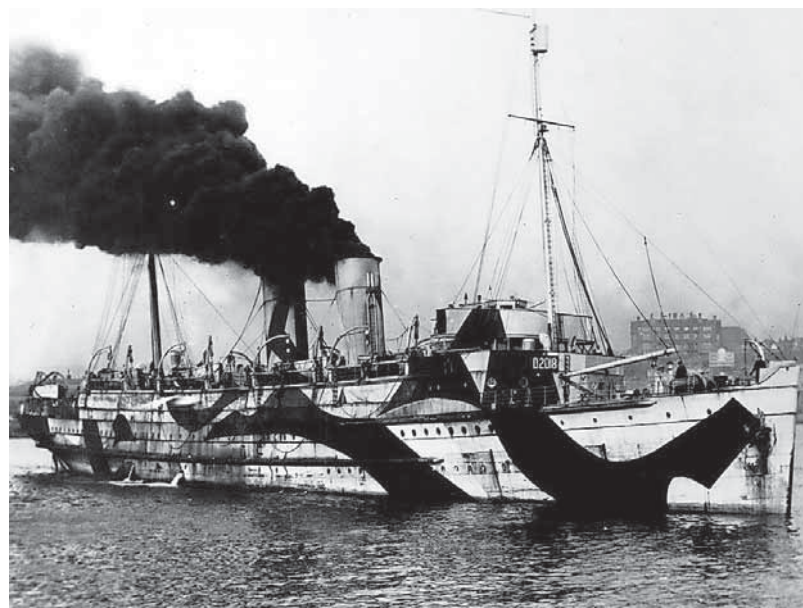
www.sparshatts.co.uk

0844 396 1122

Ashford Dartford Sittingbourne Tonbridge

Soldiers, spies and suffering in the Great War recalled

Exhibitions highlight port's past as exit for troops and entry for poor refugees, writes **Chris Murphy**



AS the world this year marks the centenary of the start of the First World War, it is often easy to overlook the pivotal role played by one of the county's coastal towns during the conflict.

For many thousands of soldiers, Folkestone would be where they last stood upon British soil before they made the ultimate sacrifice on the killing fields of northern France and Belgium.

It was from there that boats would carry them across the Channel en route to the hell of the trenches.

But it wasn't all one-way traffic. The town also saw troops from around the world stationed there; it also provided a safe haven to refugees from Belgium who fled the invasion and bloodshed of their nation.

Now, 100 years later, two special exhibitions are being staged to capture some remarkable moments in time.

Folkestone in the Great War will include artefacts as well as photographs and has been organised by the Step Short educational charity in association with Folkestone Camera Club and the Folkestone and District Local History Society.

Other topics it will cover include the role of the harbour during the conflict, Shorncliffe Camp, spies and the infamous bombing raid on Tontine Street on May 25, 1917,

which left 61 dead and many more wounded.

The event will be held in the Sassoon Room at the town's library and complement the National Army Museum's major exhibition in the town hall - Your Country Calls - Enlistment to Embarkation.

Peter Bamford, a founding member of Folkestone and District Local History Society, said: "The reason we're putting on the exhibition is to show people how the war affected the residents of Folkestone and the surrounding area at a local, rather than national, level.

"The exhibition will cover the arrival of the Belgian refugees in 1914 and how the local people welcomed them into their homes and set up organisations to care for their needs and show how the Belgians themselves contributed to the local area.

"Along with the battalions of regular soldiers already stationed at Shorncliffe Camp, accommodation had to be found for others arriving in the town. Many large houses and hotels were requisitioned by the authorities to house these men and many local residents had to take in soldiers as they were billeted upon them.

"With the arrival of the reservists, territorials, Kitchener's Volunteers and in 1915 the Canadians, many new camps appeared, including the hutments at Sandling and St



Seaforth Highlanders, Shorncliffe Camp



BUSY DAYS:
Folkestone was the point of embarkation for troops and a gateway for refugees fleeing from Belgium



START YOUR HOLIDAY YOUR WAY



All the family gets to do their own thing on a P&O ferry. We'll even give you a **£20 voucher** to spend in the onboard restaurant of your choice.

Dover to Calais from
£39 each way
Includes car + up to 9 people

Plus FREE
£20 onboard food voucher

Book by 23rd June at
poferrries.com
or call **08712 220 122**

Calls cost 10p per minute plus network extras.
Calls from mobiles will be higher.

P&O
FERRIES
YOUR TRIP. YOUR SHIP.

Terms and Conditions: Fare shown is a web saver fare, is subject to restricted space, sailings and dates. £5 surcharge applies for bookings made via our Contact Centre. Offer applies to new long break return bookings (more than 5 days) made by 23rd June 2014 for travel completed by 30th September 2014. Excludes Foot passengers and bicycles. £20 food voucher can be used as part or full payment for a single transaction in the Club Lounge, Food Court or The Brasserie only. P&O Ferries reserves the right to withdraw or amend the offer without prior notice. Full terms & conditions apply.

ACCIDENT CLAIM?

We can help with your claim for:

- Head/brain injuries (Headway Approved Solicitors 2014)
- Accidents at work
- Car and motorbike accidents
- Fatal accidents
- Trips and slips
- Medical negligence

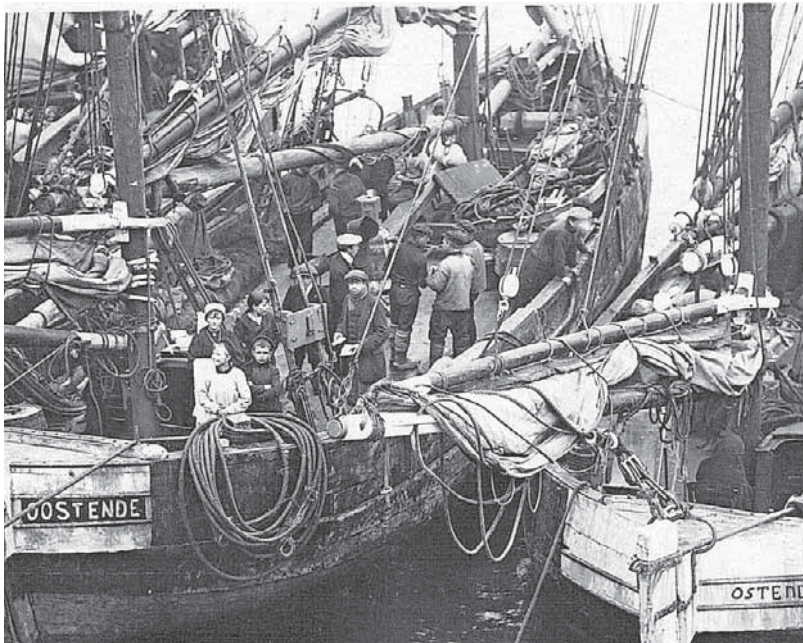


Call **GIRLINGS PERSONAL INJURY SOLICITORS** on
0845 2221 999
for a **FREE**, no obligation chat about your claim



www.girlingspersonalinjury.co.uk

KENT no win no fee specialists



REFUGEES: Folkestone provided a safe haven as families fled from Belgium and the fighting

« PAGE 14

Martin's Plain and tented camps at Otterpool, Westenhangar, Dibgate and Park Farm below Caesar's Camp.

"As the war went on, it soon became obvious that a holding area was required to house soldiers waiting to embark from Folkestone Harbour to France.

"These became known as rest camps and consisted of whole areas, including many streets, surrounded by a large corrugated fence. Soldiers would be kept at these locations until it was safe to cross the Channel and made full use

of the large houses within the camp to sleep and rest."

The extensive display show also covers some of the local men and women who served during the war and who died on active service.

There are photos of war memorials that were erected around the town in churches, schools and clubs, all listing those who served and who made the supreme sacrifice.

Paul Emden, treasurer of Step Short, said the library show has been a year in the making.

He told us: "The exhibition will consist of up to 1,000 photos of the Great War, many of which are from unseen private collections.

"Folkestone Camera Club has produced a wonderful step back to the past with an audio-visual film that gives an insight to the history of the many buildings that played an important role during the war and still survive today.

"There will also be a rare selection of artefacts on loan from local collectors.

"The exhibition will run alongside the National Army Museum exhibition at the town hall and will give visitors a great day out by visiting both exhibitions, which are only a few minutes' walk from one another and both supported by Step Short."

Vince Williams, of Folkestone and District Lo-

cal History Society, said: "We had been proposing an exhibition to commemorate the start of the First World War for a couple of years but had never put on an exhibition of this size before, so they invited other local groups to come on board with the project.

"The displays have been put together by members of the local history society as between them they have probably the largest collections of photographs on Folkestone during the war."

The exhibition at the town hall runs from June 24 to May 8 next year and is free.

The photographic exhibition is in the Sassoon Room, Folkestone Library, Grace Hill, on July 7.



**Call us to make your dreams a reality
& SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TRADER**

Partners of
Cheekatrade.com
Where reputation matters

FREE Survey, **FREE** Design, **FREE** Quotations

01622 619876



The Oast, Clock House Farm Heath Rd,
Coxheath, Maidstone ME17 4PB

www.m-b-k.co.uk



M B K Design Studio
Est 1987

PASSIONATE ABOUT KITCHENS & BATHROOMS



**SUMMER
SALE NOW ON
10% OFF**
our normal prices
QUOTE KOS
T&C apply*



THE FIREPLACE

A FAMILY RUN BUSINESS

- Wood and Multi Fuel Stoves
- Stove Package Deals Available
- Marble, Wood and Stone Fire Surrounds
- Bespoke Service Available
- Gas and Electric Fires
- Chimney Lining
- Full Installation Service



**THE
FIREPLACE**

Visit Our Showroom

2 Castle Court, Castle Road, Eurolink Industrial
Estate, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3TD

Tel/Fax: 01795 599234

www.the-fireplace.net

Opening Times: Monday - Friday 9.30-4, Saturday 10-4

**FROM
JUST £130,000**

THE QUAYS

CHATHAM MARITIME

RUSH HOUR

ONE-BED APARTMENTS TO THREE-BED PENTHOUSE

SHOW APARTMENTS NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

BETWEEN 10AM-6PM

01634 890 594

THEQUAYSCHATHAM.COM



Chalkwell of Sittingbourne - 83 years and still going strong!

Professionalism, commitment and dedication...

Three adjectives that aptly sum up Chalkwell Garage & Coach Hire, a family run business based in Sittingbourne.

The three descriptions have become increasingly important over the subsequent 83 years that the company has continued to play a key role in the transport industry.

Whether it is providing commuter coaches, bus services, Daybreaks, holidays or garage MOT's, servicing and repairs for cars and light commercial vehicles, Chalkwell prides itself on its professionalism, commitment and dedication.

This year's DayBreak programme has something for everyone including the Duxford Airshow, Bruges, London, Brighton, Isle of Wight, Rye Market and Hastings, the Knitting

and Stitching Show at Alexandra Place, and Secret Gardens of Sandwich.

There's an amazing Battlefields tour with an ex military guide, and some fabulous West End shows including, War Horse, Phantom of the Opera, Billy Elliot and the NEW Miss Saigon.

Whatever the choice, Chalkwell's aim is simply to offer a memorable and great value experience through its committed and dedicated team. Every customer matters to Chalkwell who always give a warm welcome back to old friends and greet new ones with a passion.

With a Chalkwell holiday there are no hidden extras, customers are clearly advised what's included in the price. No hassle, no nasty surprises.

When considering a coach holiday, customers are advised to look for the BCH logo which means that the holiday is bonded

through the Bonded Coach Holiday Group.

The Chalkwell holiday destinations for 2014 range from the Cathedral City of Durham and Beamish, seaside, steam and Welsh scenes, Birmingham Tattoo and turkey and tinsel in Torquay to name but a few.

The Chalkwell team are always available to help you and nothing is too much trouble for them. The team pride themselves on their excellent customer service.

Chalkwell is also giving something back this year – to Air Ambulance.

The Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance, which relies on public support, is the company's charity of the year.

Employing members of staff who are on the road every day either getting to work or driving professionally, Chalkwell is conscious that the Air Ambulance is always ready to help in an emergency.



Chalkwell

Holidays by Coach



Within the Heart of England - 5 Days Monday 28th July 2014 - Adult £345.00

We begin our holiday with a visit to The Trentham Estate including the Gardens - they are some of the finest in Britain and provide a year-round display of colour.

We begin our holiday with a visit to The Trentham Estate including the Gardens - they are some of the finest in Britain and provide a year-round display of colour. Other excursions include the Wedgwood Visitor Centre, Master Ceramic Experience & Museum, Churnet Valley Railway, Shugborough Estate, National Brewery Centre, National Arboretum, 4 nights dinner, bed and breakfast staying at the Mercure Stafford South Hatherton House Hotel which is situated in the peaceful market town of Penkridge....*Book this not to be missed trip now!*

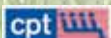
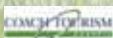


Seaside, Steam & Welsh Scenes - 5 Days 8th August 2014 - Adult £355.00

Includes excursions The Great Orme Tramway, Snowdon Mountain Railway, and the Blaenau Ffestiniog Railway. Staying at the Kensington Hotel on Llandudno's seafront promenade.

Our holiday includes a ride on the Great Orme Tramway, which opened in 1902. We will be taking you on two amazing railways - firstly, the Snowdon Mountain Railway which gives you a journey to 'the rooftop of Wales' and spectacular views. You will also visit the Blaenau Ffestiniog Steam Railway which gives you spectacular scenery of the Snowdonia National Park as you make your way to the seaside town of Porthmadog to board a train on the Ffestiniog Railway. Sit back and relax as we enjoy the journey with dramatic views all round....*Book your trip now!*

**For more information call 01795 423982
or visit www.chalkwell.co.uk
Quote 'ARC 93' when you book.**



DayBreaks by Coach



Southend-on-Sea
6th July 2014
Adult £24.00



Secret Garden of Sandwich
including cream tea at the Walpole Hotel
25th July 2014 Adult £30.00



Le Touquet
5th August 2014
Adult £47.00



Buckingham Palace
13th August 2014
Adult £43.00 includes admission



Duxford Airshow
13th September 2014
Adult £48.00 includes admission



Battlefields Tour
Includes fully guided tour & 2 course dinner
20th October 2014 Adult £70.00



The great myth of food miles... is it really just a 'busted flush'?



At a time when cheap imported food threatened home producers, encouraging consumers to buy locally and reduce 'food miles' seemed the right thing to do, but focusing on the possible benefits to the environment is now seen by many as a mistake, as [Maria Chiorando](#) reports...

REDUCING food miles was supposed to be the answer to a number of challenges.

Championed amid a sea of cheap imports – supporting and buying local under the banner of 'fewer food miles' seemed ideal. It was the marketing slogan under which we changed our shopping habits as we sought to support our local economy while enjoying more nutrients per pound too courtesy of the added freshness.

But there is a growing school of thought that perhaps it's not quite all it's cracked up to be; that the production methods employed actually undermine the short journeys food makes from field to plate.

In short, that trying to sell the argument on benefits to the environment are, at best, often misjudged, and at worse, simply misleading.

Andrew Ferne is a professor of food marketing at the Kent Business School at the University of Kent.

He is one of those feeling that less isn't necessarily more, describing it as "a bad marketing ploy". He explains: "The food miles argument is simplistic and is largely a 'busted flush'.

"It takes no account of the method of production, which accounts for much more of the embedded energy in food than transportation."

Yet shopping locally makes sound common-

sense – enhancing a sense of community and ensuring the pound in your pocket multiplies as it travels back into the local economy. Critics, however, say while that's not open to debate, playing the 'better for the environment' trump card is.

Produced in Kent is the organisation set up to champion local food and drink. Unsurprisingly, it remains committed to the benefits of home grown produce.

Explains spokesman Joanna Gurr: "We feel strongly that it's always better to buy locally. It's better for the economy, and the food is fresher, so it tastes better."

Adds Kevin Attwood, farmer and chairman of the Kent Agricultural Society: "I think the greatest joy of buying local is that you know what you're buying, it's a known provenance."

"You may even know the producer."

All good, sound arguments. Yet the food miles debate hinges on the idea that if a food is grown locally, then it is better for the environment as it has not had to travel many miles from field to plate.

Explains Dr Howard Lee, sustainability champion at Hadlow College: "Food miles are a very useful tool for measuring the distance food has been moved from point A to B."

"Some people use food miles to help in choosing food."

But how compelling is the environmental argument of the food mile debate, and is it the key reason the message is pushed to consumers?

THE FACTS: JUST WHAT ARE FOOD MILES?

IN short, it's the distance food travels from its point of production to the end consumer.

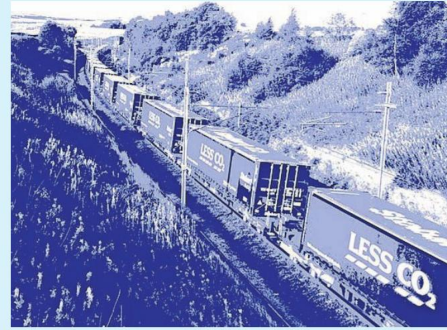
The term was first coined back in 1994 by Professor Tim Lang at the Sustainable Agriculture Food and Environment Alliance, and appeared in The Food Miles Report: The Dangers of Long-Distance Food Transport, written by Angela Paxton.

It sparked the whole debate over the distances travelled by food stuffs to create key products and the subsequent impact that has on the environment.

Quickly adopted by the green movement, it inspired many to re-evaluate their groceries and make decisions based on a perceived benefit to the environment.

In the UK, a report in 2011 revealed that agricultural-related greenhouse gas emissions accounted for approximately 40 per cent of the overall food chain – which includes packaging, marketing and retail. In comparison, the transportation of the goods accounted for 12 per cent.

As a consequence, the debate over the benefits of



'food miles' as a marketing method has been brought into question.

The arguments are wide and varied and encompass the vast majority of food production aspects.

Professor Ferne is far from convinced. He says: "Food miles is a marketing ploy and a bad one."

"People are much more interested in safety, taste, freshness and supporting their local farmers than they are in preserving the planet."

"And those are far stronger reasons for buying local food than talking about how it's travelled a fraction of the distance."

"It's stupid, don't do it, don't talk about food miles."

"The reason people do it is because it's easy, and it's a message that can be communicated very easily."

Stefano Cuomo runs Macknade Fine Foods from its headquarters in Faversham.

He fears the food miles argument is a muddled one. He says: "We've moved beyond this a bit now, but unfortunately we have had some consumers who were buying local above whether it was a good product or not, because a product was advertised as having low food miles."

"It's annoying when we come across producers who don't make a particularly good product, but because it's local they think everyone close to them will buy it."

"The market is adjusting itself but it is about quality, and if you can buy quality on your doorstep at a sensible price, then yes, you should do that."

"From my point of view, the quality is a key part of it."

"If you look at a product such as jam, for example, people think it's easy to make. So we have had people come to us wanting us to sell locally made jam that's poor quality."

"If it's not a good product, it's not a good product, and shouldn't be bought just because it's local."

"You have many excellent local producers, but the message can be muddled by a weaker product."

Another issue that comes into play is the complexity of the modern food distribution chain.

While suppliers can claim the distance between a farm and an outlet is the food miles total of a particular

food, this may not paint an accurate picture.

Explains Professor Ferne: "If you think about whether it's lambs from New Romney, or strawberries from Canterbury, if the farm produces the product, then it has to get distributed to who knows how many outlets in a van. And that is incredibly inefficient both environmentally and economically."

"This could add up to a round trip of 50, 60, even 100 miles."

"Just because the farm is local, distributing all of that produce locally and beyond means that the sum total of the environmental friendliness of the production is nothing like as beneficial as people would imagine."

"And the normal punter does not want to think about that complexity, so it's very easy and simple to say, 'oh, it's local, fewer food miles means better for the environment'. That's bad reasoning."

"In addition, food that has travelled many miles could have been air freight, which is an increasingly cost-effective and environmentally-friendly way to transport food."

If carbon emissions are at the heart of the environmental concern, then the full foot print of the product should be looked at, and not just the carbon emissions of the transportation.

Professor Ferne adds: "Now we know that the majority of energy embedded in the majority of foods originates in primary production."

"So if we think about the carbon footprint of most food products of any description, most of the energy comes from primary production."

"Now obviously if you get a baked or cooked product, or ready meals,

GIRLINGS' MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE HELPDESK

Call GIRLINGS' MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE HELPDESK on **0845 2221 999**

For a **FREE**, no obligation chat about your claim for negligent medical treatment



www.girlingspersonalinjury.co.uk
KENT no win no fee specialists

BDL GAS SERVICES

01634 232048

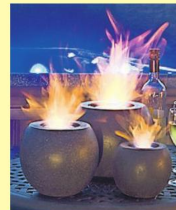


9 High Street, Rainham, Kent, ME8 7HX www.bdlgasservices.co.uk

**A FAMILY RUN BUSINESS ESTABLISHED
IN RAINHAM FOR OVER 15YRS**
ALL YOUR GAS APPLIANCE NEEDS UNDER ONE ROOF

Supply, Install and service Boilers & Central Heating systems
Fires Gas & Electric • Water heaters • Wall heaters • Cookers Gas & Electric

**We also supply Gel Burners for indoor
and outdoor use**



Free surveys for installation • Landlord certificates • Natural Gas & LPG
Huge range of high efficiency fires made in the UK with a 5yr warranty
All engineers Gas Safe registered • Medway Fair Trader member

Supply and install Wood, Marble & Stone
Fireplaces fully bespoke if required



loads of the energy is going to be embedded in the processing.

"That means the transportation part of the carbon energies embedded in the product is really quite small."

Farmer Kevin Attwood of the Kent Agricultural Society agrees there are fine lines to be drawn.

He explains: "It's very difficult to make any sweeping statements, and you must be specific in what type of produce you are referring to when discussing it in terms of food miles.

"For example, many types of salad vegetables can be grown in other countries without extra heating."

There is an argument that because of the additional heat needed in the production of British tomatoes, due to our colder climes, the carbon footprint of growing tomatoes in Spain, then transporting them to the UK, is lower than growing them in the UK.

"That is largely true," agrees Mr Attwood. "But even then there is the additional complication of Spain's finite water supplies.

"We have much more water available for growing produce in the UK. This is a complicated discussion, and there is no straight forward argument."

Certainly no-one is suggesting we all stop buying local.

The issue is more an ethical dilemma over the use of the term food miles and the perceived benefits.

For example, in an increasingly global world, does the wealthier west have responsibility to support the economy of struggling countries by importing their goods?

The burgeoning fair trade market, which includes products such as coffee,



Food miles is a marketing ploy and a bad one. People are much more interested in safety, taste, freshness and supporting their local farmers...

Andrew Ferne, (pictured above), professor of food marketing

fee, chocolate and bananas seeks to aid countries from continents such as Africa and Asia.

Stefano Cuomo, from Macknade, explains: "You have to work out the bigger picture of the impact.

"Look, for example, at coffee beans. What's the impact of transporting coffee beans from Africa?

"Ok, it may be significant from a fuel point of view, but actually the positive aspect that can be applied to the farmer who's grown the beans that may not have a market in Africa

means you have to consider the impact differently."

Produced in Kent's Joanna Gurr adds: "Although it is good to buy local produce when possible, we would never dream of telling people they couldn't buy things.

"If there is something that isn't grown locally, of course a consumer will have to look further afield. It's a case here of awareness being key."

Food waste is also worth considering in the debate about transporting produce over large distances.

Explains Mr Attwood: "We export a surplus of food. This is generally rapeseed and wheat.

"It is very important to note that we don't have a surplus every year, but often we do have more than we need, and that can be sent abroad."

This means that this surplus will clock up miles as it travels to foreign markets.

The alternative to this is simply wasting the produce, which is clearly an undesirable option.

In this case, it would appear that the wide scale transportation of produce, and the associated carbon footprint of doing so outweighs the disadvantages of wasting tonnes of surplus crops.

While food miles is a trend the environmentally conscious will tap into, it seems that it is not a black and white issue.

Says Professor Ferne: "For any producer, or any business to have a marketing strategy based around the environmental energy of local production is flawed, and stupid.

"My point would be that local food is going to be fresher, it's going to be tastier, it's going to be traceable and much better for the local economy."



WHAT IS PRODUCED IN KENT?

IT IS a membership organisation dedicated to championing local food, drink, products and services in Kent.

Far from being motivated purely by 'food miles' it has been set up to support a diverse range of businesses relating to the production and sale of goods in the county.

Governed by a board with representatives from Kent County Council, Hadlow College and its membership, it is supportive of the employment opportunities at the 'economic heart of our rural communities'.

It explains: "Our role is to promote local and seasonal produce and provide support and services to our members. We achieve that through strategic objectives.

"They are: To champion and support the growth, development and future of the food and drink sector in Kent; to leverage brand equity to generate greater visibility and recognition among the public, future members and private sector investors; and to deliver an exceptional and valued membership experience."



OPEN AIR CLASSICAL CONCERT

at Leeds Castle, Kent



John Rigby



P&O Ferries Choir



Chris Hollins



Military Wives Choir



Patriot Girls

Saturday 12th July 2014

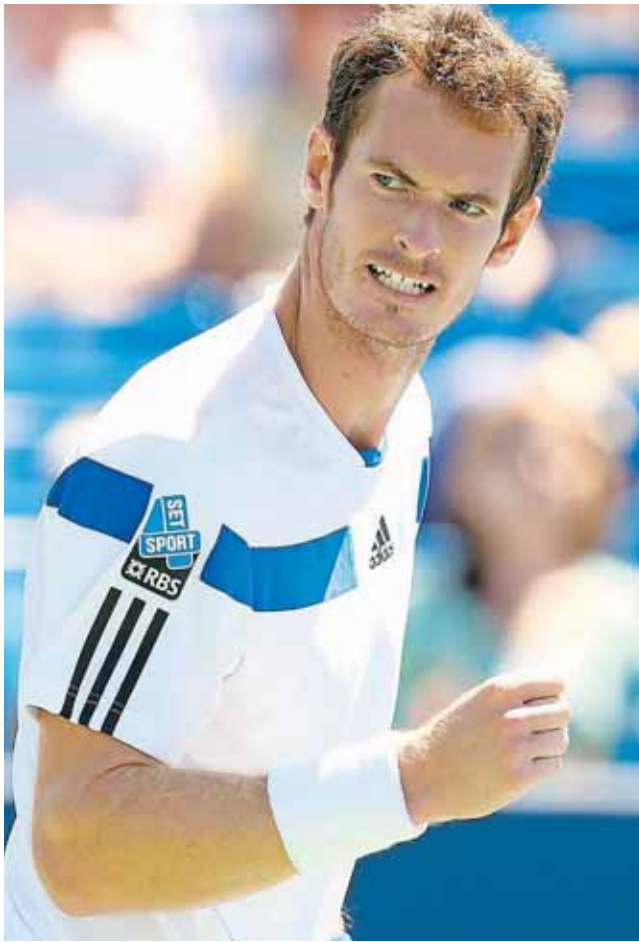
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by John Rigby, with soloists James Edwards and Hye-Youn Lee, Military Wives Choir, Patriot Girls, P&O Ferries Choir, hosted by Chris Hollins, with vintage flying displays, a military band and fireworks finale!

Sponsored by **P&O FERRIES**

0845 652 62 62

www.heritage-events.co.uk

Heritage Events



Strawberry taste test reveals who we think are real top seeds of SW19

With Wimbledon only weeks away, **Maria Chiorando** decided to look at one tournament favourite that year after year always proves a big hit...

AS Britain's great tennis champ Andy Murray prepares to embark on the defence of his historic Wimbledon crown, the thunk of ball on racket at SW19 also serves up images of plump strawberries dipped into cool cream.

And for Kent, Wimbledon's famous dish proves a fertile ground, with thousands of the succulent fruit grown in the county before being sent up to the home of the All England Lawn Tennis Club.

But it turns out that not every berry is created equal.

With an increasing number of varieties grown across the county, it is difficult to know just which one is the cream of the crop.

So we at Kent on Sunday decided, as a service to our loyal readers, this week to determine just which was the strawberry worthy of your palate.

We picked seven varieties – all available in the major supermarkets and all grown in Kent – and conducted a blind tasting session among our newsroom staff.

Just to make it fair, we even threw in an imposter strawberry to see how that would stack up against the home-grown contenders.

For each fruit they were presented with, they had to rate it on taste, aroma, appearance and texture.

In short, the key ingredients to making the perfect strawberry.

And the results may prove a little surprising...

WORTH A PUNNET? Andy Murray will hope to retain his Wimbledon title

**FABULOUS BATHROOMS
&
STUNNING FIREPLACES**

At
EXCEPTIONAL PRICES

Come and talk to the experts

morris & turner
BATHROOM AND FIREPLACE WAREHOUSE

Come and visit our refurbished showroom

Third Avenue, Chatham, Kent ME5 0AD

T: 01634 813813 | E: sales@morrisandturner.co.uk

www.morrisandturner.co.uk



Chatham Branch Opening Hours: 08:30 - 17:00 Monday - Friday

09:00- 17:00 Saturday | Sunday - Sorry Closed

Outlet Branch at Dockside Outlet, Chatham ME4 3ED (01634) 891524

Opening Hours: 10:00 - 18:00 Monday - Wednesday

10:00 - 19:00 Thursday - Friday 10:00- 18:00 Saturday | 11:00 - 17:00 Sunday

Ubiquitous, superlative or just plain average – which one took top spot?

COMING out on top, and described in the tasting notes of one of our panel as 'as close to perfect as a strawberry can be', was the Driscoll's Jubilee.

This superlative berry was large, flavoursome and shapely, with a classic red timbre and pleasant aroma.

It was the top choice across the board.

This strawberry comes at a cost, though... at £5 a punnet this is not a fruit for the faint-hearted.

But if you want to watch Andy Murray tackle the world's best in pursuit of back-to-back titles while munching on a form of strawberry that does the fruit proud, then this is surely it.

Not, perhaps surprisingly, that the same can be said of the somewhat ubiquitous Elsanta.

This is one of the most common varieties, and with good reason.

Strawberries are quite delicate fruits, highly susceptible to adverse weather conditions and predators.

The Elsanta is somewhat more hardy and robust, and therefore is

able to survive conditions more ably than some of the others.

Unfortunately, what this particular berry had in hardness and low price (a mere £2), it lacked in flavour, texture and aroma.

It was the most unpopular fruit for everyone.

Also unpopular was the spanner secretly thrown into the works: a non-Kent strawberry.

Not only was the Fenella of Hertfordshire described as 'disappointingly average' but most of the tasting panel correctly identified it as the non-indigenous berry, noting its distinctive 'wild berry flavour'. As for the rest, they spanned the gap.

Flavour was an issue for many, but the sheer variety and choice proved, as if proof were needed, that Kentish fruits are the choice of the discerning strawberry connoisseur.

■ **What do you think? Join the debate and share your views.**
Write to: The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS. Or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.



7th

Elsanta

Comments: Watery, tasteless, sloppy texture
Overall score (out of 10)



Tesco
400g
£2

6th

Fenella

Comments: Beautiful appearance, slightly tasteless
Overall score * Wild card – this was grown in Hertfordshire *



Tesco
400g
£2.75

5th

Vibrant

Comments: Exceptionally watery
Overall score



Tesco
400g
£3

3rd=

Triumph

Comments: Very large, a bit sour
Overall score



Tesco
400g
£2.50

3rd=

Driscoll's Diamond

Comments: An inconsistent punnet, blending both the good and underwhelming
Overall score



Waitrose
400g
£2

2nd

Driscoll's Scarlet

Comments: Good firm texture, slightly insipid flavour
Overall score



Tesco
400g
£3

1st

Driscoll's Jubilee

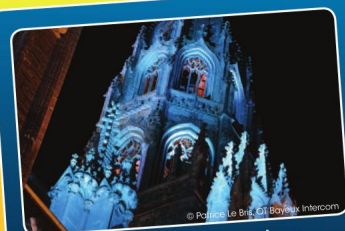
Comments: Good colour, good juice ratio, excellent flavour
Overall score



Waitrose
400g
£5

The fastest route to Normandy by car!

Book now!



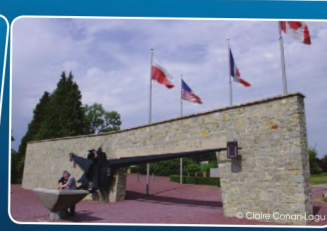
The Lights of Freedom - Bayeux Cathedral
14 June to 23 August

Free spectacular sound and light show projected on Bayeux Cathedral.



Caen Memorial
Until 31 December

Exhibitions on the historical build up to WW2, the D-Day Landings and the Cold War.



Montormel Memorial - Orne
23 August

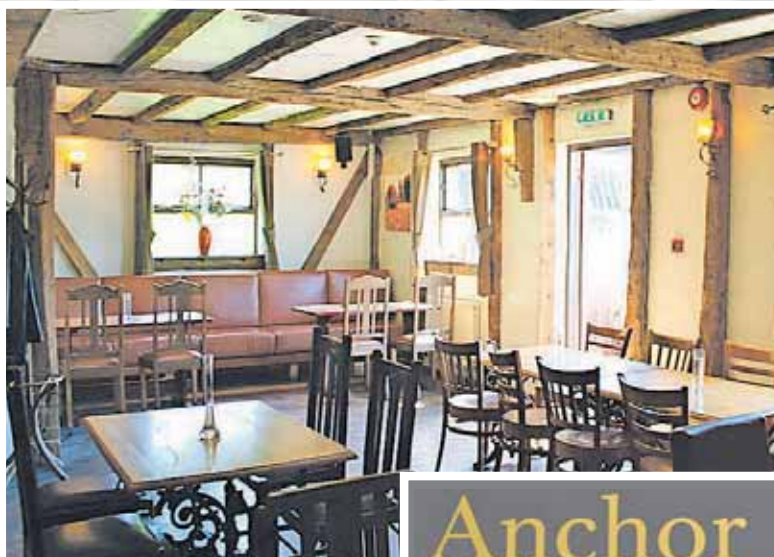
Day of events, drama, brass bands, films and much more.

- Up to 4 departures per hour
- No luggage restrictions
- No fuel supplements

Visit www.eurotunnel.com/normandy
or call 0844 335 1647



drive through europe



Anchor & Hope

Country Pub & Restaurant



Bar Opening Hours
11.00 - 23.00 Mon-Sat
11.00 - 22.00 Sun
Restaurant
Opening Hours
Seasonal Menu
12.00 - 21.00 Mon-Sat
12.00 - 18.00 Sun

Onsite Parking
Wheelchair Accessible
Restaurant & Bar Menu
Beer Garden
Children's Play Area
Real Kent Ale

Accommodation
Available
-
Private Functions
-
Dogs Always Welcome

A fully independent public house and restaurant, the Anchor and Hope, is situated in the heart of the picturesque village of Ash. Recently refurbished and under new management, this country pub retains all the charms of a 16th century inn, whilst being bright, modern and family friendly.

New management, Ben and Emma, have been running The Waggon At Hale in Chatham for the past 3 years. They turned their sights to the Anchor & Hope and have given it a completely new lease of life. Country walkers will find not just a welcoming respite for a refreshing

break, but a restaurant that provides an eclectic and varied selection of traditional pub food and modern bistro dining. A children's menu is also available, as well as a well equipped play area within the beer garden.

Newly Refurbished
16th Century Pub

01474 872382
www.anchorandhope-ash.com

Anchor & Hope, South Ash Road,
Ash, Kent TN15 7ER



Like us on FACEBOOK
/anchorandhope2014

WAGGON at HALE

Thurs 25th September to Sun 5th October Cask Ale Week

179 Capstone Road,
Chatham,
Kent, ME5 7PP

01634 400800

www.waggonathale.com

*To celebrate Cask Ale week
all our ales will be at £3 during this period.*

*We also have our next festival of the year kick starting
on Friday 26th to Sunday 29th September*

LORD Lucan was smuggled to a plush hotel in Tunbridge Wells before being disguised and flown to a remote foreign monastery, a new book on the enduring mystery claims.

The socialite and gambler has not been seen since the murder of Sandra Rivett at his family home in Belgravia, London, in November, 1974.

Estranged from his wife at the time, Lucan was declared guilty of murder, in his absence, during an inquest into her death – the last time in British legal history a coroner had the power to do so.

It is widely thought he killed the 29-year-old in a case of mistaken identity as he lay in wait for his wife. He then fled, calling in at friends en route.

His car was found parked in a New-haven side street, leading to suggestions that he caught a cross-Channel ferry. Many believed he then threw himself overboard.

However, with no trace of him ever found, speculation has intensified into just what happened. And Kent has played a recurring theme.

So far it has been claimed he was hidden by his chum John Aspinall at his Port Lympne, or Howletts, wild animal parks, or that the animal-lover flew him out of Headcorn Airfield on a private jet, allowing him to hide and lead a life abroad and out of reach of the long arm of justice.

Now, however, a new book has been published which offers a very different turn of events – and one no less fanciful than those which have gone before.

It claims the missing socialite was smuggled out of the UK via Kent to a monastery and possibly on to Botswana by a former spy and member of a private underground army.

Author of *The Troops of Midian*, Richard Wilmott, says the information comes directly from the former MI5 operative who planned and executed the operation, paid for by Lucan's pals.

The book takes its name from an apparently genuine shady underworld private army of the same name.

The source is James Gurney, a former government spook and latterly a member of the secretive troops.

Mr Wilmott claims Mr Gurney told him everything on the operation to

Did Lord Lucan hide in two of our hotels during 1974 escape?

New book claims aristocrat hid out in Tunbridge Wells and Groombridge on his way to Botswana, **Chris Murphy** reports

spirit Lucan away and set him up with a new life – possibly in Botswana.

Following the nanny's murder, the book says Lucan was taken to what was the Wellington Hotel on Mount Ephraim in Tunbridge Wells – now a Travelodge – and then on to the Crown Inn in nearby Groombridge, a village on the East Sussex/Kent border.

With the coast clear, it was on to a safe house in Ponthill Gifford, Wiltshire, which is where Mr Gurney comes in.

It's claimed he told Mr Wilmott that Lucan changed his appearance by shaving off his distinctive moustache, applying fake tan and dying his hair blond.

It was then on to a flight, with a fake passport in the name Richard Bishop, from Heathrow to Athens.

The alleged former spy kept a diary, and one entry on them leaving the UK read: "It might have seemed lunacy that I was about to set out in broad daylight with the most wanted man in Britain beside me, but the police were looking for a lone man with dark hair and a sandy speckled moustache."

"We were two fair, clean-shaven men, travelling together."

It was just two weeks after the murder.

From Athens, the pair holed up in a series of safe houses and boats before settling at the remote Moni Kapsa monastery in eastern Crete for a month. It's said the monks received a healthy donation of thousands of pounds in 1975

to repay them. Locals called the tall, thin gentleman who had arrived there "the man who walked with goats" because of his frequent mountain strolls.

A fishing boat took the peer, disguised as a monk, from Ierapetra to Africa, where the trail finally goes cold. The writer speculates about Botswana being where he lived out his days.

Mr Wilmott said Mr Gurney told him the story and showed him his diaries and when a friend at the BBC put his theory to a member of Lucan's family they said it was "spot on".

Lucan's family have, however, always denied any knowledge of where the peer went.

It is often guessed that Lord Lucan passed away in either 2004 or 2008. As for Mr Gurney, he was using a fake name and has also vanished.

Mr Wilmott said he spent 20 years on the research, during which time, in 1995, his car containing vital documents was set on fire at his Dorset home. Thankfully, he had copies of notes.

Steve Harnes took over the Crown Inn in Groombridge two years ago. He had no idea his venue might have been used for Lucan's apparent escape until Kent on Sunday told him.

He told us: "We have had a few famous people here over the years. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle used to pop in and Keira Knightley came while filming *Pride and Prejudice*. And now we hear Lord Lucan stopped off. Perhaps, I should put a new 'special' on the board."



MYSTERY MAN: Did missing peer (inset) stay in Tunbridge Wells?

BUSINESS BROADBAND from **£3** a month

For the first 12 months, from £8 a month thereafter. Plus line rental for only £10.50 a month. Excludes 20% VAT.

Great Service + Great Price. That's Plusnet Business.

Get our business broadband and we'll also give you:

- + Installation at no extra cost
- + 24/7 free phone UK call centre
- + Dedicated business support team

Don't miss out on this great offer from a provider dedicated to serving small business customers.

Helping The Coffee Jar brew the best coffee in town

Luxury 5* HOLIDAY PARK

Start your new relaxing lifestyle with Four Seasons in this beautiful haven in the Garden of England.

We work with the manufacturers to ensure you get the perfect home, whatever the size and style.

NOW OPEN 12 MONTHS A YEAR

PICTURESQUE LOCATION IN THE HEART OF KENT

HOLIDAY HOMES FROM **£145,000**

Call today on 01732 807 648

Four Seasons Holiday Park, Labour in Vain Road, Wrotham, Kent TN15 7PA

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE

Call 01303 817150

Call 01303 817150

www.kentnews.co.uk

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

CHAMPIONS OF SMALL BUSINESS

Call 0800 0733051

www.plus.net/business

plusnet We'll do you proud

Available to new Plusnet Business customers who sign up to a 24 month contract and take Plusnet Business Broadband and line rental. For customers signing up by 10th July 2014 at www.plus.net/business or by calling Plusnet Business. If you are located in a low cost area you pay £3.00 a month for 12 months, then £8.00 a month from month 13 (otherwise £8.00 a month for the first 12 months, then £13.00 a month from month 13) with £10.50 monthly line rental. 25GB monthly usage cap. Router delivery of £4.99 applies, should you choose one. Prices exclude VAT at 20%. Plusnet plc, Registered Office: The Balance, 2 Pinfold Street, Sheffield S1 2GU. Registered in England no: 3279013. © Plusnet plc. All rights reserved.

BUY DIRECT WHELANS

UK's Largest Manufacturer Of Concrete Garden Ornaments



Over 500 New Items

**WHELANS MANUFACTURE OVER 4,000
DIFFERENT DESIGNS**

- BIRD BATHS FROM £10
- STATUES FROM £10
- PLANTERS FROM £5
- BENCHES FROM £29

**WHELANS 52 HIGH STREET, BLUETOWN ME12 1SY
NEXT TO SHEERNESS DOCKS**

01795 663879

www.whelansgardenornaments.com

FACTORY OUTLET

UK's Largest Manufacturer Of Concrete Garden Ornaments



Compost Special offer 4 for £10

- **PALMS FROM £5**
- **FANTASTIC SUMMER BEDDING PLANTS
NOW AVAILABLE**

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 9am-5pm

**WHELANS 52 HIGH STREET, BLUETOWN ME12 1SY
NEXT TO SHEERNESS DOCKS**

01795 663879

www.whelansgardenornaments.com



AUCTION: Among the lots were this 1913 Merryweather fire engine (above) which sold for £74,300 and a stunning 1922 Tilling-Stevens double-decker bus (right) which sold for £216,540.



Private vintage vehicle collection sells for £3 million

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

A COLLECTION of vintage motor vehicles owned by a collector near Maidstone has sold at auction for more than £3 million.

The top lot was a 1914 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost which sold for £418,140.

It formed part of a collection of more than 1,000 vehicles and memorabilia related to the motor industry which had been collected by the late Michael Banfield.

He died last year, with his remark-

able collection, built up over a lifetime, put under the auctioneer's hammer. He lived in Staplehurst.

Mr Banfield was a founder member of the Historic Commercial Vehicle Society, becoming chairman in 1965 and remaining such until 1993, when the society became a charity. He then stayed on as CEO until his retirement in 2011.

He was also a member of the Veteran Car Club (VCC) and served in various positions with FIVA, the Fédération Internationale des Véhicules Anciens.

The sale, conducted by London

auction house Bonhams, saw a trio of classic buses sold for a combined total of half-a-million pounds, including one world-record-breaking 1922 AEC S Type, open-top double-deck bus selling at £281,500 – three times its top estimate.

The same bidder later snapped up the second bus of the day, a beautifully-restored 1922 Tilling-Stevens TS3A open-top double-decker, selling for £216,540. The final bus of the collection, a 1932 Leyland Titan TD2 double-deck bus, was one of the last two petrol-engined buses to operate in the Channel Island of Jersey,

achieving £34,500 at the auction.

Some 99.7 per cent of the lots up for sale sold during the two-day event.

A collection of fire engines further heated up the bidding, with a 1913 Merryweather fire engine selling for £74,300, and a c1910 Delahaye fire engine chassis selling at £13,225, more than doubling its top estimate.

Malcolm Barber, Bonhams co-chairman and auctioneer at the sale, said: "For more than 50 years Michael Banfield dedicated himself to the restoration and preservation of these fantastic vehicles. I'm delighted we were able to celebrate Michael and his

collection with the weekend's event, honouring his life's passion with his friends, family and automotive enthusiasts.

"Bidders came from all over the world, including several from the southern hemisphere, with clients from both Australia and New Zealand not only bidding in the room but also watching via the Bonhams online bidding platform. Customers registered from Japan, the mid-west of America, Miami, across Europe and Hong Kong – this was a highly sought-after collection with many Bonhams clients taking an intense interest."



WWW.KENTSHOW.CO.UK 01622 633 060

f kentcountyshow

twitter kentcountyshow



Titles are key for illustrator with a passion for rural life

Rebecca Day talks to **Diana Crampton** about her art and living in the county

ARTISTS' studios come in many shapes, sizes and locations and Rebecca Day's is certainly no exception. I reflect, as I sit in the converted granary where she works.

Open-plan, with Velux windows and a bed for her dog, the door is open on this sunny summer day. Day is a rural illustrator, inspired by her distinctly country childhood, having grown up at Moorden Farm near Penshurst.

Starting out her career in what she describes as a "fairly unappealing" line of work in London, Day missed the countryside and life on the farm. "Kent is wonderful, with London on the doorstep," she said. "There are little towns, good people and it is the best of both worlds."

Over the course of our interview, it became clear that she is closely involved in farm work and adventures, the changing of the seasons and the appearance of wild and farm animals, which mainly form her subjects.

While not formally trained in art, she obtained a degree in countryside management and worked for a charity giving conservation advice to farmers.

Day had been creating cards while doing this work, so when she was made redundant three years ago it was a relatively short step to develop her hobby and go into art full-time.

She holds her own exhibitions because she loves organising events. These can vary from her safe studio to more "quirky venues", as she put it. One recent exhibition, for instance, took place at Chiddingstone Castle.

"It suits the ethos of my work and it is good to support venues locally and get visitors into the castle," she said.

As for her lack of training, she remains undaunted but refers to lessons learned at school that helped her get to know which medium she liked.

"If you have a natural talent, I think it will show through," she said. "This particular genre came naturally to me. I like taking words or titles and thinking about what animal characters would fit into those subjects."

"I paint what is around me – illustration is a more structured way of working. It's easy to think of a title, like 'the naughty Labrador

Continued on page 30 »



LOVE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE: Rural illustrator Rebecca Day and one of her three dogs in her converted granary studio in west Kent

» Features Editor:

David Mairs

dave.mairs@archant.co.uk

Tel: 01303 817022



Follow us @KOSLeisure or
www.kentnews.co.uk/leisure

« Continued from page 29

and a mouse', for instance. I'd get an image and the process flows. Titles are very important, they are the key.

"Often I will think of the title before the actual image itself. Last Christmas, I illustrated according to carol titles. I make a connection between what I see and how that could fit into certain titles".

Day also had an exhibition centred on childhood rhymes; one was Jabberwocky, another a piece called This Is The Way The Lady Rides. Her Gulliver's Travels depicts a cat walking on a fence.

I asked whether she read a lot to find inspiration. Her answer was quite surprising: "Not really. I love children's books, old poems, country sayings, and that is where I draw inspiration from."

She also does animal commissions and takes them very seriously, too. She researches the subject thoroughly, which could mean meeting the subject and getting to know their quirks or mannerisms.

People usually pick up on the humour behind it. Day has three 'naughty' spaniels and, as she says, "There is always something happening on the farm to catch your eye."

She believes that imagination counts as the number one skill needed for illustration.

"You have to visualise in your head something creative. You need a sense of humour, also knowledge of your subject, how animals move, and so on. For me, understanding the seasons, which plants you'd see together, makes the illustration come to life and people relate to this."

The works are created in



watercolour but not used in the traditional sense like washes in landscape, plus a pigment ink pen. The process may involve a visit and Day will first of all take photographs. Later she gets involved in more research and does preliminary sketches to get the composition right.

She also works for rural businesses, so there may be a pre-selected theme for the work. Her biggest paintings are just less than 60cm. Commissions are 43cm by 55cm, framed, on a variety of papers, such as watercolour paper or graphic paper for a logo.

The most exciting project has been the stationery for her wedding, including the invitations.

This brought her happiness, but she also says that art is important for bringing happiness to most people.

■ Call Rebecca Day for an appointment on 01892 871398; you can also visit www.toadhallcompany.co.uk.



ANIMAL MAGIC: Illustrator Rebecca Day's distinctive works include On The Run, top left, Now Listen Up, top right, and And There It Was, above



This feature is one of the articles that can be enjoyed in June's **Kent Life**, which is out now. Or you can subscribe online @ subscriptionsave.co.uk or www.buymag.co.uk/KE

TIM RICE AND ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE COMES TO THE ASSEMBLY HALL THEATRE FOR ONE WEEK ONLY!



'A MONUMENTAL SHOW'

SUNDAY EXPRESS
BILL KENWRIGHT BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE REALLY USEFUL GROUP PRESENTS

EVITA

STARRING

MARTI PELLOW

AS CHE

MADALENA ALBERTO

AS EVA PERON



ASSEMBLY HALL
THEATRE



MONDAY 30 JUNE - SATURDAY 5 JULY
BOX OFFICE: 01892 530613 WWW.ASSEMBLYHALLTHEATRE.CO.UK

Saxophonist YolanDa is bringing her jazz skills back to the cathedral city

SHE has been dubbed “the UK’s most exciting jazz talent” and this month saxophonist YolanDa Brown returns to the city that was home through her time in higher education.

Ten years in Canterbury, where she studied management science at the University of Kent, means Brown should have a better idea than most of the jazz scene in the cathedral city and across east Kent.

She does not, though, it would appear, recall it as particularly vibrant.

“I have very, very fond memories of Kent,” said Brown, who hails from not so very far away in Barking, east London.

“I went to a few gigs but not a lot. I was not aware of a jazz scene *per se*, but I would probably have found one if I’d looked for it. If something had been advertised, though, I would have seen it.”

In truth, she was perhaps too focused on her drive to becoming a management consultant to have noticed such things, but ultimately the music won through and her decade of education (from 2001-2010) at Canterbury, where she studied for her degree, Master’s and PhD, was brought to a close.

The PhD was not completed and Brown took the bold step into the world of professional jazz – her saxophone would be her passport to fame and, just maybe, fortune.

“I think it’s still in the back of my mind that I

Musician tells **David Mairs** she has good memories of her decade in Canterbury studying at university

might one day complete my studies,” she said. “But I had to make a hard decision as to whether I wanted to go touring a lot and playing or stay with the course.”

So we can’t call her ‘Doctor’, then?
“Well, actually, you can. The month I made the decision to not carry on with my PhD at Canterbury, the University of East London awarded me an honorary arts degree. It really was a sign to say I’d made the right decision.”

Her career has already had highlights, including a UK tour with The Temptations, a meeting with the Queen, a visit to Downing Street and playing for former Russian president Dmitry Medvedev at The Winter Palace.

Her first album, April Showers May Flowers, hit No

1 in the iTunes and Amazon jazz charts, so there really would seem to be no stopping this friendly, light-hearted and richly talented woman in the world of jazz.

It is, of course, a world that is sometimes viewed as a little gloomy, inhabited by groups of sad old losers with nothing else – or no one else – to occupy their time. Might the emergence of bright young things such as Brown be indicative of a sea change?

“I think it is changing,” she said. “Jazz has so many parts and I’ve mixed other styles of music in my songs – there’s reggae, soul and classical, for example. I’m a bit of a rebel in the jazz field.”

“As for the sad old men, I think that’s more associated with bebop and traditional.”
Sad old men, or just men.



Jazz has been unquestionably male-dominated, but again Brown senses a gentle revolution taking place.

“There are lots of female artists out there making great music as well,” she said. “I think they can also bring a more emotional and softer approach to things.”

Brown usually travels with backing singers but at Gulbenkian in Canterbury next weekend she will just be part of a quintet.

“It’s an intimate venue and it will be a lovely evening,” she said.

The current tour is lengthy – from May 2014 to March 2015 – but with substantial gaps between clusters of dates. Deliberate or just the way it fell?

“Sometimes we do take breaks and sometimes it’s how it falls. If I’m recording a new album I quite like the fact that those breaks are there – you get the opportunity to be creative and try out new material.”

“But I’ll often be humming a new tune or idea into my phone – it’s always in the background.”

■ YolanDa Brown will be at Gulbenkian on Sunday, June 29, at 7.30pm. Tickets are priced at £12 (concessions £10). Visit www.thegulbenkian.co.uk or phone 01227 769075.

■ On Saturday, July 5, she will be at the Hop Farm Music Festival, Paddock Wood. Phone 0845 0756101, or alternatively you can visit www.thehopfarmmusicfestival.com.

HERITAGE FARM PARK

Kent Life

SEE

Fireman Sam

Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 June

General admission prices

Adults	£9.25
Children (aged 3-15)	£7.25
Concessions	£8.25

Kent Life members come for FREE

Fireman Sam will be appearing at intervals throughout the day.

© 2014 Prism Art & Design Limited, © Hit Entertainment Limited.

For more details and to book general admission tickets online visit **www.kentlife.org.uk**

Kent Life, Lock Lane, Maidstone, Kent ME14 3AU. Junction 6 of the M20. T: 01622 763936

THE WAR AND PEACE REVIVAL

THE GREATEST GATHERING OF MILITARY VEHICLES ON THE PLANET

plus Dine with the stars of... Allo' Allo'

16-20 July 2014

Vintage Dining **Home Front** **Military Vehicles** **Classic Cars**

Living History **Vintage** **Family Fun**

At RAF Westenhanger Folkestone Racecourse
Nr Hythe Kent CT21 4HX Tel: 01304 813337
www.thewarandpeace revival.co.uk

Sarah Marshall takes a trip to England's World Cup group opponents Costa Rica, and is surprised by what she finds...

A walk on the wild side in land of hidden treasures

AS the driver slams on his brakes, passengers in the mini bus lurch forward. The pedestrian blocking our path, however, doesn't seem to be in any hurry to cross the road. Hardly surprising since, even at top speed, this three-toed sloth can only muster 0.15mph.

Preferring to spend most of their time in the branches of cyclopia trees, sloths only come down to the ground once a week to release their bowels. So our chance collision en route to the natural pools at Rio Celeste is quite an occasion.

These verging-on-ugly creatures are Costa Rica's most famous animal residents. But they are only one of the many species that inhabit this small Central American country, which, although occupying just 0.03 per cent of the planet's surface, accounts for five per cent of the world's biodiversity.

I, like many other tourists, have come here to see these animals in their natural environment, but a visit to the Jaguar Research Centre in Puerto Viejo on the Caribbean

coast is a good place to get to grips with what's on offer.

There are approximately 100 rescue centres in Costa Rica, taking care of injured animals and staffed mainly by volunteers.

Puh, a volunteer from England, tells me she originally came to Puerto Viejo in the 80s and loved it, but when she returned four years ago, she discovered the one-time hippy hangout had deteriorated into a party town for gap year travellers.

She was about to leave when she stumbled upon the Jaguar Research Centre. "I phoned up for the opening times and I already knew I was going to stay," she says, smiling.

She's been back every year since, working solidly in an office at home for five months to save enough money to spend the rest of her time here, caring for animals.

Although the government in Costa Rica has implemented laws to protect the environment, many people refuse to observe them, and it's passionate custodians, such as Puh, are working hard to protect the

country's greatest assets.

Thanks to the growth in eco-tourism, there's also an economic benefit to their efforts.

Once a farmstead, the Magsaysay Lodge in the Sarapiquí rainforest is now a guest house for tourists.

Bordering the Braulio Carrillo National Park, there are more varieties of plants, birds and butterflies here than in all of Europe.

The soil here is extremely fertile, thanks mainly to volcanic activity in the region. The best known peak is the Arenal volcano, and the town of La Fortuna – which has grown up around its base – has become a hub for adventure tourism.

I climb to the top of Arenal on an unfortunately rainy day.

A thick mist swirls through the forest, where the muddy ground has turned to soup, and buttress roots protrude from the earth, providing ample seclusion for Costa Rica's rainbow collection of frogs.

Bio-diverse landscapes vary wildly across the country, although only 25 per cent of the land is protected.



EYES FRONT: Costa Rica accounts for five per cent of world's biodiversity

On the Caribbean side, Tortuguero National Park is an important nesting site for turtles, while inland waterways offer a chance to spot iguanas, anteaters and Jesus Christ lizards, so named because they appear to walk on water.

It's not often you have the chance to simultaneously sunbathe and spot animals, but during a stroll along the beach, I encounter iguanas basking on rocks, sloths dozing in trees, and capuchin monkeys jumping through the forest canopy.

By 2021, the Government hopes Costa Rica will become a zero per

cent pollution country; an ambitious goal. It may be one of the few countries in the world not to have an army, but if it wants to protect its natural treasures and win a war against environmental change, they could have a fight on their hands.

■ **G Adventure** (www.gadventures.co.uk; 0844 272 2040) offers a 16-day Costa Rica Adventure trip, covering Puerto Viejo, Tortuguero, Sarapiquí, Monteverde, Manuel Antonio and San Jose, from £999pp. Price includes accommodation, transport, some meals and activities. Flights extra.

£5 OFF

Sign up For Summer

£5 off the summer courses

Sign up for Summer by 21st June receive 5 pounds off the course

Lessons for children of all ages and abilities from parent and baby to beginners.

Improvers to more advanced swimmers, life saving skills,

rookie lifeguard and adult lessons.

Group and 121 private lessons available.

Weekly lessons at all locations are available.



BOOK NOW at all our new locations

Sevenoaks, Otford, Maidstone, Medway, Rochester, Cobham, Gravesend, Crockenhill, Dartford.

Keep an eye out for:

5 week summer school in your area!

We now have classes covering Sevenoaks Dartford Maidstone Orpington Rochester Gravesend and Medway

SMALL CLASS SIZES



www.anglasswimschool.co.uk

Places limited call today **01474 878248** quoting 'Splish and Splash'

Get 100% For Your House, Quick Sale!



Free Valuation
No Obligation - Call Now
020 8622 5013
YellowSpringbok.co.uk

To
advertise here
call
01303 817152

ANGEL FLEAMARKET

Angel Centre, Tonbridge TN9 1SF
8am-1pm EVERY FRIDAY • FREE ADMISSION
Lots of vintage and retro bargains
01732 456196 • 07798876857
email: sue.carmichael@btinternet.com

Turn Up 'n' Drive Karting
From £15 **BUCKMORE PARK** Ages 4+
www.buckmore4kids.co.uk

J.P. AUTOS

• Brakes
• Exhausts
• Batteries



Service Book
Stamped
35 Yrs Exp.

MOBILE MECHANIC

CAR SERVICING / SMALL VANS
MOT's, GENERAL REPAIRS ETC...

based in Sittingbourne

01795 483314 / 07980 573224
jimporter69@hotmail.co.uk

Bloomers Restaurant
Cosy, intimate, candlelit, romantic

AS SEEN
ON
**BBC
TV**
BOOK NOW



01474 322131

15-16 The Overcliffe, Gravesend DA11 0EF
www.overcliffehotelkent.co.uk

The Local Handyman



Plumbing (City & Guilds Qualified) ~ Bathrooms
Washing Machines Installed ~ Radiators Moved
Landlords / Property Maintenance ~ Guttering
Painting/Decorating ~ Flat Pack Assembly
Garden Maintenance ~ Hedge Trimming
Laminate Flooring ~ General Repairs ~ Odd Jobs

No job too small ~ References Available
Fully Insured ~ All areas of Kent covered

Call Clive: 07765 663322

MAN, VAN & SAM REMOVALS

No job too small
DSS Welcome. 24 hour service.
Free estimates. Friendly advice
and competitive rates.
Storage facility available.



www.manvanandsam.co.uk

01634 280085 07889 308755
Local Authority Approved

Outdoor festival hits new heights

Organisers hail popular creative event as 'remarkable feast of colour', with new acts thrilling audiences

FUSE Medway Festival 2014 will be remembered as the best yet, say the organisers of the north Kent cultural festival.

A spokesman for the event said there had been "more visitors than ever before, the highest-quality acts and some real winners for the crowds".

"This year was a remarkable feast of colour, movement, excitement and surprise as the towns of Chatham, Rochester and Gillingham filled with acts of all kinds, from circus and dance to poetry and visual art," the spokesman said.

"With the weather staying fine, the outdoors provided the perfect setting for people to gather together and truly celebrate."

Fuse artistic director Megan Donnelly said: "I've enjoyed every minute of this festival – the preparation, the performances and seeing so many people enjoying themselves."

"This year we had more visitors than ever before and the crowd had a fantastic buzz about it."

"Our opening parade saw even bigger and better puppets than in previous years and over the weekend there were more big shows for people to choose from."

"We wanted to give our audiences the chance to watch, take part in

and, above all, really experience a huge range of quality artists – all for free."

This year's festival included circus, dance, music and magic from Les Enfants Terribles' Imaginary Menagerie, break-dancing from Southpaw Dance Company's Faust, an art and design fair, comics exhibition, pedal-powered poetry, a human foghorn and a range of spectacular shows.

Saturday night saw a piece of aerial theatre from Wired Aerial

“This year's Fuse Festival really did have something for all the family... a wonderful way to celebrate creativity”

Theatre – an "action movie in the sky", with artists suspended high above the audience in the night sky.

Medway Council's Howard Doe said: "This year's Fuse Festival really did have something on offer for all the family. It is a wonderful way to celebrate creativity in Medway."

The festival was supported by the Arts Council's Grants For The Arts scheme and Medway Council.



UP FOR GRABS: Wired Aerial Theatre, pictured top, were among a number of unusual acts performing in Medway

FREE MICROCHIPPING from Dogs Trust Please visit us at:

Clockhouse and Riverside

Ashford
TN23 4HB
Wednesday 25th June
10-12pm

Newtown Green

Ashford
TN24 0PL
Wednesday 25th June
1-3pm

Swanley Town Centre

In the square outside West Kent Offices
Swanley, BR8 7TQ
Friday 27th June
11-3pm

Contact **0207 8370006** for more details
or visit **www.chipmydog.org.uk**

The law is changing! As
from the 6th April 2016
you **must** have your
dog microchipped



* Offer open to dog owners aged 18 or over regardless of benefit status, subject to availability and resources of the charity. Please note that Dogs Trust does not currently fund any other veterinary treatment. No appointment needed. We strongly advise that puppies being chipped are fully vaccinated beforehand. We reserve the right to ask for proof of vaccination. We cannot chip any other pets at this event. The Promoter: Dogs Trust, 17 Wakely Street, London, EC1V 7RQ. Registered Charity Numbers: 227523 and SCO37843.





Sponsored by:



MASERATI Motorline®

We are delighted to be able to bring you the 2014 Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards

YOUR nominations are being encouraged for the 2014 Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards.

The awards dinner will take place at Tudor Park Marriott Hotel and Country Park, Bearsted, near Maidstone, on November 13, 2014, from 6.30pm to midnight.

The prestigious awards, which launched in 2013, are designed to champion, highlight and offer a showcase to Kent's outstanding food and drink industry.

From local producers and suppliers to small farming businesses, restaurants, chefs, pubs and hoteliers, all will be people who care about the countryside and the future of our local environment. The companies featured will be nominated by you, our wonderful Kent Life and Kent on Sunday readers.

We want to know if you've received a fantastic meal at your local pub or been impressed by the produce and service at your local farmers' market or farm shop.

The nomination form is available here if you prefer to enter by post. Photocopied forms are acceptable. You can also enter your favourite online at our awards website kentfda.co.uk, or you can email us your nomination at kentfda@archant.co.uk.

Nominations close on August 1, 2014. Our hand-picked panel of high-profile judges, who all live and work in Kent, then select a short-list.

This kickstarts the independent judging process, when all the finalists will be visited or interviewed to determine a worthy winner in each of the 12 categories.

All finalists will be invited to the awards ceremony in November, when they will enjoy a fabulous reception and three-course meal prepared by Tudor Park's talented head chef

Tom Biddle before finding out if they are a winner.

This is our second Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards and we are immensely proud to be able to offer you once again the opportunity to reward and recognise the deserving businesses within our local food and drink industry that go above and beyond expectations.

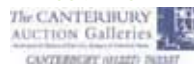
These awards are what you, our readers, make of them, so if you are the owner of a pub or restaurant, a chef or local producer, then spread the word among your clients, customers and visitors.

It takes no time at all to nominate your favourite. You can email, post or enter your nomination online. The judging panel is looking for quality over quantity, focusing on good comments rather than simply the number of nominations, so that everybody is in with a chance, no matter how big or small their business.

Don't forget to let us know on our Twitter pages @kentlife and @KOSMedia when you have made your nomination, by using #kentfda - similarly, if you are looking for nominations, please use this hashtag.



NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR



This popular category is open to anyone in the food or drink industry who has started a new venture within the last 18 months. We want to know what impact they have made on the local community and if they have started to achieve any success further afield. Are they helping to promote Kent food and drink to a new audience or have they found a new way to promote an old favourite?

BUTCHER OF THE YEAR



This is your chance to praise your local butcher and everything they do. Consider asking your butcher how their meat is hung, prepared and cut and whether it can be traced to a local farm. Are the staff knowledgeable and helpful? Do they suggest new cuts for you to try? Do they use their expertise to prepare meat ready for the oven? Does your butcher play a key role within the local community? If so, nominate them!

TEA SHOP OF THE YEAR



Tea shops are an integral part of the Kent food and drink scene and we'd like to know your favourites. Who makes the best tea, serves the nicest cakes and the freshest scones? Is the jam homemade and are the sandwiches freshly cut and liberally filled? Do they make tea feel like a special event? Most importantly, are most of the ingredients locally sourced? We're looking forward to hearing all about your favourites.

FOOD PRODUCER OF THE YEAR



New this year, this category celebrates our local food producers. We are looking for someone who consistently provides both top-quality local produce and service to their customers. We are keen to hear of any innovations, so if they're doing something new, we'd like you to share it with us. If your local baker, grocer or farmer delights, let us know.

DRINK PRODUCER OF THE YEAR



New this year, this category celebrates our local drink producers. Whether it's gorgeous

Kentish fizz or delicious juice, we want to find the producers who play such a vital role in the county's food and drink economy. We want to know who you think makes the best drink in Kent, alcoholic or not, and why it is so special. We are keen to hear of any innovations, so if they're doing something new, for example a fabulous new flavour, we'd like to hear about it.

FARM SHOP OF THE YEAR



A good farm shop needs to have that extra-special something to tempt shoppers away from their local supermarket. Are the staff friendly and knowledgeable? Is the range of produce and the layout of an excellent standard? Does your local farm shop offer a box scheme? Is most of the produce sold there grown or raised on that farm or nearby, and if not would the owner be able to tell you where it is from? Nominate your favourite now!

FARMERS' MARKET OF THE YEAR



The key to a good farmers' market is not only the range of produce and the quality of its stalls but also the principles that it supports - for example, does it work as a co-operative with other farmers? Is most of the produce sold there

AWARDS CRITERIA

grown or raised locally? Are the stallholders welcoming and knowledgeable? Is the layout easy to navigate as you move around the market? Are any extras offered on a regular basis, such as cookery demonstrations or talks? Is the market well advertised so you can plan your visit in advance and is there good accessibility and parking? Let us know so we can tell everyone about the best place to go.

PUB OF THE YEAR



A good pub these days has to offer more than a warm welcome and excellent ale. We are looking for an inn that also offers delicious and locally-sourced food with seasonal variations. As well as excellent food and drink, it must offer fantastic friendly customer service and real value for money. Good pubs are genuinely the hub of their local community. To misquote a popular TV programme, "pubs are all about ambience, ambience, ambience". If you know a great one, even if it isn't your local, let us all know by voting for them.

RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR



The Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Restaurant of the Year needs to offer an incomparable dining experience, from the ambience to the service and, most importantly, the food. Are the ingredients locally sourced, do they support local producers and, if so, are they recognised on the menu? Look through their wine list - do they have local as well as international wines and fizz and can the staff tell you more if you ask? We'd expect nothing less from the 2014 Restaurant of the Year.

CHEF OF THE YEAR



Kent is blessed with outstanding chefs working in the county's fantastic array of restaurants. The Chef of the Year should be someone who has devoted himself or herself to the cause of serving the best possible food. They will demonstrate technical ability, use of seasonal ingredients, presentation of the food and an understanding of how flavours work together. They will be able to lead and inspire their team and to talk to customers knowledgeably about the dishes they have enjoyed. Above all, we are looking for passion - that magic ingredient that defines true greatness in the kitchen.

CUSTOMER SERVICE OF THE YEAR



Another category that's new this year is Customer Service of the Year. Most of our awards recognise customer service in some form. This category celebrates this vital element for its own sake. Do you know an individual, organisation or establishment offering consistently excellent service that goes above and beyond what you expect? We all know great service when we have received it - now is your chance to get it recognised. If you know a person, company, producer, pub, shop or restaurant that is a delight to deal with, tell us.

KENT FOOD & DRINK HERO OF THE YEAR



Kent has a food and drink scene that is among the most vibrant in the UK, as you would expect from the Garden of England. This category celebrates the individual who has made a positive impact on the food or drink community - someone who goes the extra mile to promote Kent to a wider audience and is passionate about local produce throughout. Now is your chance to nominate your own Kent Food and Drink Hero.



Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards 2014 Nomination Form

Nominate your Kent food and drink favourites by using this form, or email us at kentfda@archant.co.uk

Please post your entry form to:
 Food & Drink Awards 2014,
 Archant KOS Media,
 Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth,
 Ashford TN25 6SS

Or you can email us at:
kentfda@archant.co.uk

Copies of the form and posters to
 advertise your entry are available at
www.kent-life.co.uk and at
www.kentnews.co.uk.

The closing date for entries is
 Friday, August 1, 2014.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

.....

Email.....

By entering your details you will be automatically added to the Archant database. Archant will contact you with relevant offers and you can unsubscribe from this at any time. If you would prefer not to be contacted, please state 'no offers' on this form.



■ Our 2013 Kent Food and Drink Hero, Stephanie Hayman, above, who has revolutionised school meals in east Kent. Who will be your choice of Hero for the 2014 top award?

Kent Food & Drink Hero of the Year

Sponsored by Canterbury Auction Galleries

Who?

Where?

Why?

Food Producer of the Year

Sponsored by Perrys Chartered Accountants

Who?

Where?

Why?

Farmers' Market of the Year

Sponsored by MyFerryLink

Who?

Where?

Why?

Chef of the Year

Sponsored by Britelite

Who?

Where?

Why?

Butcher of the Year

Sponsored by Bybrook Barn

Who?

Where?

Why?

Drinks Producer of the Year

Sponsored by Anchor & Hope

Who?

Where?

Why?

Pub of the Year

Sponsored by Eastwell Manor

Who?

Where?

Why?

Customer Service of the Year

Sponsored by Fenwick Canterbury

Who?

Where?

Why?

Tea Shop of the Year

Sponsored by Gerald Lukehurst

Who?

Where?

Why?

Farm Shop of the Year

Sponsored by Winterdale Cheesemakers

Who?

Where?

Why?

Restaurant of the Year

Sponsored by Rix & Kay

Who?

Where?

Why?

Kent Food & Drink Hero of the Year

Sponsored by faversham.org

Who?

Where?

Why?

your say...

Send us your views.

Write to:

KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Rd, Smeeth, Ashford, TN25 6SS.

Email:

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Twitter:

@kosmedia

Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances, and a daytime phone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit all letters.

White horse more a white elephant

WITH regards to the huge white horse statue proposed to be erected at Ebbsfleet [KoS, last week].

What kind of amnesiac was responsible for even dreaming it up and commissioning it in the first place?

Kent already has a white horse, who has a name and meaning.

What is more, he dates back to before Romans time.

His name is Invicta; meaning unconquered. He is still here and will remain, even after the EU's domination has failed.

Just who is responsible for trying to replace him and erase his memory from the minds of the people of Kent?

June Moore, Tunbridge Wells

EU takeover is not what they died for

HAVING just commemorated the 70th anniversary of D-Day, I wonder what all the British service personnel who died during that invasion would think of the way politicians and others have recklessly and disgracefully squandered the freedoms and democracy they gave their lives defending.

Seventy years ago, Europe was in the grip of Nazi German tyranny.

Germany's Angela Merkel is now reported to be the most powerful woman in the world, and Germany the richest and most powerful country in Europe.

Where did we go wrong to allow this of a country with such an unforgivable recent history?

The blueprint for the EU can be traced back to what Germany planned to do with us if it won the Second World War.

Today, that which Germany failed to do is being achieved by stealth and cunning, and British taxpayers are funding much of it. While the Tories, Labour and Lib Dems are salivating around the gates of Brussels seeking power and grandeur that they will never be allowed to have, Britain is being broken up before our eyes.

If the insanity of the EU is not stopped soon, there will be nothing left of our country worth fighting for.

Roger Arnold, Herne Bay

Hospice flying in face of the facts

PILGRIMS Hospice chief executive Steve Auty clearly disagrees with the expert findings of both Sue Ryder Care and the Help the Hospices

LETTER OF THE WEEK



Magpie persecution is barking up wrong tree

CONTRARY to the assertions of Mr Giltrap [KoS letters, 08.06], all scientific studies have shown that seasonal predation of eggs and chicks by magpies and other corvids has no long-term negative impact upon songbird populations.

Indeed, habitats that support the greatest numbers of magpies also support the healthiest populations of other bird species.

Magpies are, of course, a native species and form an important element of a healthy eco-system.

Their unwarranted persecution will inevitably have consequences for the natural balance of our native flora and fauna.

Indeed, songbirds have long evolved to absorb significant attrition of eggs and chicks, and it is in fact habitat loss, bad weather and mortality among breeding birds and fledged young that impacts most significantly

upon their populations.

Further, Mr Giltrap's killing of these beautiful and intelligent British natives is very possibly illegal, because a licence is required from Natural England.

The reference to currently healthy songbird populations has everything to do with an excellent breeding season for our wild birds, as a result of benign spring weather, rather than annihilation of local magpie populations.

If Mr Giltrap really wants to help our native birds, and not just enjoy shooting them, he should devote his energy to campaigning to protect our semi-natural habitats and reduce pesticide use and persuading cat-owners to invest in collars with bells.

Cllr Tony Harwood (Lib Dem), chairman of the management committees for the Boxley Warren and River Len local nature reserves, Maidstone

Commission on Future Hospice Care.

His statement that 70 per cent of people want to die at home is misleading since when, and of whom, the question is asked offers a more nuanced result.

The recent report by Demos for the Sue Ryder Foundation, A Time and A Place: What people want at end of life (2013), illustrates this, saying: "More people want to die in a hospice the closer they get to death. At the same time, fewer people want to die at home. Most importantly, at the very end (last days) of life, hospice becomes the preferred place to be for those with

experience of hospices: 44 per cent say they want their last days at home, and 55 per cent in a hospice."

The report goes on to recommend that providers seek to improve knowledge of hospices within their communities, spread their offerings of care by providing Hospice at Home services, and liaise with other providers in offering education in end-of-life care for staff.

All these are laudable elements of future strategy at Pilgrims.

However, the report does not suggest closing any existing hospice inpatient facilities as they intended to do.

The implications of the report are that as understanding of hospices is spread more widely – as Pilgrims intends – with an increasingly growing and aging population, the need for hospice inpatient beds will increase, rather than decrease, as Mr Auty implies.

This point is reinforced by one of the main recommendations of a report by Help the Hospices Commission into Future Hospice care – Current and Future needs for Hospice Care: An evidence based Report (2013).

This states that "it is essential to increase the availability of hospice beds and/or investigate optimal ways to use the number of existing inpatient hospice beds. However, it is also paramount to diversify hospice care provision into other models of care and care settings".

Both these reports speak for the need to utilise existing inpatient provision as well as increase community services.

David Tattersall, Canterbury

She's not talking for the real masses

THE statement by Police and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes [KoS, 08.06] "the people of Kent have put their trust in me..." is not strictly true.

Out of an electorate of 1,281,239 only 114,137 actually voted for her; or to put it another way 1,167,102 actually didn't vote for her.

Maybe they already knew she had delusions of adequacy?

R Alexander, Swanley

Macmillan needs your help in fight

RECENT research has shown that every day a staggering 24 people in the county hear the devastating news they have cancer and 12 people die from the illness.

This will see Kent's population of people living with cancer more than double between 2010 and 2030.

This huge increase will result in thousands more people feeling isolated and alone, even after treatment ends. Macmillan and its supporters want to make sure we're there to solve these issues.

It costs £27 to pay for a Macmillan nurse for one hour.

We are looking for people in Kent to hold events, parties and coffee mornings for Macmillan to help raise cash for these nursing hours.

For advice and to order merchandise, call 0300 1000 200.

Liz O'Hanlon,

Kent fundraising manager, Macmillan Cancer Support

KOS 10 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

AS part of our commitment to providing the best service to you, we have produced our 10 guiding principles which tie in with our parent company Archant's overall mission statement.

Archant's mission statement is: "We bring together motivated buyers and sellers through the creation of unique and compelling content and community expertise." This is summed up in the strapline "Inspiring Communities".

The way KoS will create our unique and compelling content is to follow these 10 principles: **Kent on Sunday will:**

- 1) Be available in every postcode in Kent.
- 2) Be fair, accurate and balanced.
- 3) Be written in clear, concise English.
- 4) Not be overly sensational.
- 5) Have a sense of humour.
- 6) Have an easily understood division between

news, comment and advertising.

- 7) Seek to celebrate as well as constructively criticise.
- 8) Highlight topical issues of concern to people living in the county.
- 9) Spotlight individual cases which raise broader concerns.
- 10) Champion causes that it feels are important to the well-being of the county and its people.



Boxley

by **Ivor Dennis**
from Rainham

If your picture is printed on this page you will receive an any-duration **Dover-Calais** return crossing for a car and up to five passengers, valid for a year, courtesy of...



To see your photograph printed, email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk, or post it to Archant KOS Media, Images of Kent, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS. Be sure to include your name, address and a contact telephone number. Unfortunately we cannot return any prints, and please do not send negatives. Note: all digital images must be no less than 200dpi.

PARKLIFEGROUP

MODERN LIVING, TRADITIONAL VALUES

With 38 parks across the UK, your perfect home could be closer than you think



Open Days: 27-28 June & 25-26 July

Open days:
Allhallows Park
Allhallows
Rochester, Kent
ME3 9TD

A range of properties available, including brand new 2 bedroom fully furnished homes from £155,000

- Parks in 13 counties
- Show homes to view
- Part exchange available

- For a private appointment with one of our sales executives, please call 0800 8 20 20 70

Visit www.parklifegroup.com for full details of open days on 27-28 June & 25-26 July

Call 0800 8 20 20 70 | Email enquiries@parklifegroup.com | www.parklifegroup.com



EMBANKMENTS

BAR & RESTAURANT

Embankments is the only permanently moored floating Bar & restaurant in the whole of Kent.

Join us for cold wine, beer or cocktails & BBQ on our **new sun deck and floating beer garden** listening to chilled music or watching live sport "Football & Wimbledon" on 3 large screens & **Pedalo boat Hire.**

Enjoy freshly prepared Kentish produce in our

Surf "n" Turf Restaurant

Large choice of fish - shell fish - steaks & Kentish farmed meats



www.embankments.co.uk ☎ 0800 689 7888

River Medway, Mill street, Rear of The Archbishops Palace, Maidstone, ME15 6YE.

business

Supermarket depot sold in £98m property deal

By Jamie Weir

jamie.weir@archant.co.uk

MORRISONS staff at a major distribution centre in Sittingbourne have been told their jobs are safe after it was sold in a deal worth £97.8 million.

Investment fund Tritax Big Box REIT plc completed the sale this week – and immediately struck a deal with the struggling supermarket giant to lease the site back to it for the next 25 years.

It will cost Morrisons an initial annual rent of just over £5.4m a year, with annual rent increases capped at 2 per cent.

The move comes as part of a restructuring by the supermarket chain after it confirmed heavy £176m losses over the last year, with its market share being eroded by cut-price rivals such as Lidl and Aldi.

It has already confirmed some 2,600 jobs nationwide would have to be lost as a consequence of its poor performance.

Selling off the distribution site in Kemsley is seen as part of a financial



SOLD: Morrisons will lease site

reshuffle as it faces a challenging short term in a highly competitive marketplace.

Hundreds of staff are employed in Kemsley, but none are thought to be in danger of losing their jobs.

Tritax partner Colin Godfrey said: "The centre is extremely well located, facilitating the large-scale delivery of merchandise across the UK and Eu-

rope. It was chosen by Morrisons to be its strategic south east regional distribution centre for chilled and ambient general merchandise, and now serves 53 M Locals and 85 main supermarket stores from the Isle of Man to Ipswich."

Morrisons group property director Terry Hartwell added: "In addition to being one of the country's leading grocers and food producers, Morrisons is also the owner of a significant amount of real estate in the UK."

"As highlighted in our latest preliminary results, one of our objectives is to manage our properties more actively than we have historically, which involves monetising a small number of assets including our regional distribution centre in Sittingbourne."

The distribution warehouse was originally developed for Morrisons in 2009.

It incorporates two separate units on a site of 49.8 acres, with one being fully fitted as a chilled distribution unit.

The property estate investment firm took out a £53.8m loan with Barclays to finance the purchase.

Green light for Maidstone hotel

A 150-bedroom hotel in Maidstone has been given the green light by council planners.

The hotel at the Eclipse Park near to junction seven of the M20 will include a restaurant and conference facilities.

The building will be built by Gallagher Properties, part of the Maidstone-based Gallagher Group.

It will now open discussion with "a number of operators" interested in the site.

Primark opens new city store

POPULAR fashion retailer Primark opened its latest store in Kent this week with the unveiling of its Canterbury outlet.

It is in the former BHS building in the Marlowe Arcade, part of Whitefriars shopping complex.

Its opening, on Thursday, creates some 300 jobs.

The store was opened by the Lord Mayor of Canterbury, Ann Taylor.

Ukip duo pressure aviation authority to save Manston

KENT Euro MPs Nigel Farage and Janice Atkinson have written to the Civil Aviation Authority urging it to keep Manston Airport open.

In a letter to chairwoman Dame Deirdre Hutton, the two Ukip MEPs, who live in Westerham and Chislehurst respectively, say the closure is "economically damaging to east Kent" and that the authority needs to invest in the site to ensure it has a viable future.

They say that to allow any other development would be "economic vandalism" that future generations would regard as "unforgivable" and insist that the site's owner, Ann Gloag, must not be allowed to profit by selling the airport to a public body at taxpayers' expense.

Thanet District Council is considering serving a compulsory purchase order on the airport – a legal function that can allow councils to acquire land without the permission of the owner if it is perceived to be for the greater good of the community.

The letter says: "We believe that the closure of Manston is short-sighted in the extreme – especially as Manston already has international traffic-handling facilities for both passengers and freight."

"Thanet is short of employment and one of the more deprived areas of the region – and every study has shown that there is a significant shortfall in runway capacity in south-east England."

"We believe that there must be no change of use of the site and that Manston's future – with judicious investment – must lie in aviation."

They have asked the authority to do "everything in its power" to oppose any change of use, reopen the airport, invest in it whatever money is necessary to make it work and insist that "no 'windfall' profits are won by the current owner effectively at taxpayers' expense".

Good News for Higher Rate Taxpayers!

Are you a Business Owner, Director or Partner running your own controlled limited company? Are you earning **£50,000 or more** every year in dividends and salary? If you answered **YES**, we have some **good news!** There is a way for you to **retain 82% of your income** having paid all the appropriate taxes!

Changes in the tax rules over the last few years now mean that there is a **considerable tax advantage** enjoyed by those who are taxed as self-employed compared to those who are taxed as employees.

The answer is closer than you may think, and it lies in **redefining your relationship with your business** with a consequent effect on the remuneration package you receive from it.

Business Owners and Directors deserve to see the results of their hard work in their pay packet, as they are the ones **creating**

jobs and helping to build the economy.

It is also a way of **retaining working capital** to assist the **growth of your business** or avoid relying unnecessarily on the business bank overdraft!

We can **assist Business Owners**, whether Directors or Partners, to benefit from this difference by structuring their remuneration so that it is taxable as income from self-employment.


Donal Lucey Lawlor
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

If you would like to find out more, contact Donal Lucey Lawlor Chartered Accountants today! You can give us a call on 01303 230 587 or e-mail us at info@tts.co.uk. To learn more about business growth, follow us on Twitter at @DLLAccountants.

KENT & MEDWAY
SAFETY CAMERA PARTNERSHIP
driving business - safely!



 Kent Channel
Chamber of
Commerce

 buzzlines
In the discovery lane travel

 King's
Rochester

New concept in education caters for aspiring teenagers

INNOVATIVE education for people aged 14-19 is being brought to your doorstep by Bromley College.

As the leading college in south-east London, Bromley College is working with a number of top employers and industry experts to create a new college for young people.

Its new Hospitality, Food & Enterprise College will offer those aged 14 to 19 the opportunity to study high-quality industry-focused vocational hospitality and catering qualifications, combined with core curriculum GCSEs.

A new concept in education, it will follow successful models seen in New York and Holland.

Supported by The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, and a number of top companies including the Dorchester Group, Hyatt, D&D London, The Modern Pantry, Hilton Hotels and Springboard, the college will offer a truly innovative way to gain the skills and qualifications employers need.

With entry points at ages 14 and 16, there really is something for everyone.

It's not just a career as a chef that is on offer; if you're great with people, then a front-of-house role, restaurant manager, barista, mixologist, hotel manager or receptionist position might just be the job for you.



FOCUS: College works with industry leaders

Find out more

Opening this September at the Orpington Campus, the college will feature new, state-of-the-art catering and training facilities, including kitchens, classrooms and a student-run restaurant in the town centre.

Secure your place today

Visit the college's Orpington Campus Open Event on Tuesday, June 24, from 4.30pm-7.30pm, to find out more and apply.



BEST PRACTICE: Motor technicians can now train locally, thanks to Automotive Training Ltd

Centre for technical excellence

HAVING worked with local garages for several years, the directors of Automotive Training Ltd have now opened up their own training centre to enable technicians to be assessed locally.

In the past, technicians had to travel quite a distance to reach the nearest ATA assessment centre, so this offering on the outskirts of Canterbury, in Chilham, offers a local solution, plus the bonus that the candidate can return home each evening, making it less stressful for the candidate and with no hotel bill for the employer.

The directors, Vaughan Meiklejohn and Nigel Banks, are pleased to announce the centre is now up and running and able to provide automotive technician accreditation (ATA) training and assessment for MET, panel, paint, light vehicle diagnostics and inspection routes, together with short courses in welding,

air-conditioning, diagnostic equipment and four-wheel alignment.

The feedback received so far has been very positive, with the most common comment being how friendly everyone is – the assessors try to make the candidates feel at ease, although it is recognised that it is a stressful experience for even the most skilled technicians.

To maintain the automotive industry, new recruits are needed all the time.

Automotive Training will be offering body and paint apprenticeship training from September. For advice on how to employ an apprentice or how to become an apprentice please contact us.

Dates of assessments and more information be found on the website, www.automotivetrainingltd.co.uk.

BROMLEY COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

Exciting things are happening

Visit:

Orpington Campus

Tuesday 24 June

4.30pm - 7.30pm

NEW FOR SEPTEMBER

**Train to be chef at our new
Hospitality, Food & Enterprise College
opening at our Orpington Campus**

**www.bromley.ac.uk
020 8295 7000**

BromleyCOLLEGE
OF FURTHER & HIGHER EDUCATION

AT Automotive Training LTD

We offer ATA Assessments in:

MET Senior & Technician
Panel Senior & Technician
Paint Senior & Technician
Light Vehicle Diagnostic Senior & Technician
Light Vehicle Inspection Senior & Technician

We also offer:

NVQ, VCQ or VRQ to technicians wanting to study and qualify in the workplace.

Are you a technician working in a garage and need a qualification?

Are you a garage owner who wants to ensure your technicians are up-to-date?

In the past technicians had to travel out of the county to get ATA assessment – there is now a local solution. Automotive Training Ltd offers a fully fitted Training and Assessment Centre on the outskirts of Canterbury (A28 between Canterbury and Ashford).

We can also offer training and short courses in:

- Air Conditioning (vehicle)
- Basic Welding (vehicles)
- Four wheel alignment
- Diagnostic tools
- Basic Car Maintenance

We are small and flexible – if you want a course run specifically for your technicians then we can accommodate you. If you are outsourcing because no-one knows how to use the equipment then training might be a better option.

Contact us on
01227 738208
quoting KOS 22
automotive.trainingltd@btconnect.com



www.automotivetrainingltd.co.uk



College higher-education courses offer you the perfect alternative

STUDENTS upset about having to remain in education until they are 18 are being reminded that there is still a great alternative to school and university.

MidKent College is one of the biggest and best providers of further and higher education in the country, providing hundreds of courses that are free for all 16- to 18-year-olds.

From plumbing, electrical installation and sport to beauty therapy, catering, travel and tourism, a huge range of vocational courses is on offer in addition to A-levels.

The college, which has a new £86 million campus in Medway as well as another fully-refurbished campus in Maidstone that cost £20m to complete, attracts students of all abilities and from all walks of life.

Principal Sue McLeod said: "It is important young people understand that the raising of the participation age does not mean they have to stay at school – they can also escape to college."

"Many of our courses are vocational or occupational and our

links with local industries mean our students are more employable when they leave us than they would be if they stayed on at school.

"I strongly believe MidKent College has a course to suit everyone and facilities that are unrivalled by any other school or college in the county."

The Government has increased the age to which all young people in England must continue in education or training, requiring them to continue until the end of the academic year in which they turn 18 from 2015.

This means pupils who started Year 11 or below in September 2013 will need to continue until at least their 18th birthday.

Meanwhile, students unsure if university is right for them are being urged to consider enrolling on a higher-education course at the college, which offers a number of Higher National Diplomas/Certificates and foundation degrees at just £5,950 a year – far less than the £9,000 maximum charged by some universities.

Students who enrol on a higher-

education course at the college are also guaranteed the highest quality of teaching within state-of-the-art premises, with all courses validated by the University of Kent, Canterbury Christ Church University or Edexcel.

Courses are available in the following subjects: applied science, built environment, business, human resources, IT, education, engineering, entrepreneurship, health and social care, hospitality and event management, performing arts, security and sport and leisure management.

Director of HE development Stephen Batchelor said: "Money should not be a barrier to education, which is why we try to keep our course fees as low as possible."

"We have designed a series of qualifications that will provide people with the skills and abilities they need to be successful in building a career and gaining an edge in the ever-more crowded job market, making higher education a worthwhile long-term investment."

■ Visit www.midkent.ac.uk for more information.



PICTURE THIS: MidKent College has state-of-the-art campuses and facilities

APPLY NOW

ESCAPE TO COLLEGE

...because you can still leave school at 16

01634 402020
www.midkent.ac.uk

MidKent College
A great alternative to school sixth forms

Kent Invicta Chamber

The County's Premier Business Support Network

Kent Invicta Chamber is the ultimate business support network in Kent. The Chamber provides Membership services, Business Advice, International Trade services and much more

The Chamber is perfectly placed to promote, support and facilitate business across the country

WHY HAVE OVER 1200 KENT BUSINESSES JOINED KENT INVICTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE?

We offer your business:

- Networking & Promotion**
 - Over 160 networking events per year - including Over 60 FREE
 - Opportunities to show case your products and services at our B2B Exhibitions
 - Free advertising in Chamber publications
 - Free database of over 1200 Kent companies to promote your business
- International Trade**
 - Discounted Export documentation service
 - Advice and Guidance in seeking new markets
- Cost Reduction**
 - A range of discount products and services designed to reduce your overheads and increase your bottom line
- Training & Development**
 - Workshops, Seminars and Training Courses designed to keep you up to date, ahead of the game and better placed to drive your business forward
- Business Support**
 - Business Advisory sessions to talk through your business proposals, aspirations and concerns in a private and confidential environment
- Meeting and Conferencing facilities**
 - Small board rooms through to large conference rooms
 - Accommodating meeting ranging from 2 to 120 delegates
 - Ample free parking
 - Attractive discounts
- Representation**
 - A voice to champion your business concerns at all levels

Make sure your business is #wellconnected by joining Kent's leading Chamber of Commerce for as little as

54p
a day

Enjoy over 30 exclusive member benefits
Keep up to date with grants, loans and funded support
Connect with expertise and talent, locally and globally

Join today!



Head Office: 01233 503838 Ashford Business Point, Waterbrook Avenue, Sevington, Ashford TN24 0LH
Maidstone Office: 01622 695544 The Gate House, Archbishop's Palace, Mill Street, Maidstone ME15 6YE
Gravesend Office: 01474 550026 The Old Town Hall, High Street, Gravesend DA11 0AZ

www.kentinvectachamber.co.uk

READER OFFER ▶ Holidays

Call 01895 83 33 33
for bookings and information



Holidays offered by GN Holidays & Voyages, Higher Denham, Uxbridge UB9 5EL; ABTA NoY0291-ATOL9362 • Email: info@gnvoyages.co.uk • www.gnvoyages.co.uk
Open 9am to 5.30pm weekdays, 9.30am to 12.30pm Saturdays. Close Bank Holiday weekends.



GREAT HIGHLAND RAILWAYS & THE ISLE OF SKYE

Escorted Holiday by Rail
6 days, half board, **£649pp**
Departs 27 August, 2014

QUOTE:
SC8-KOS

The Inverness to the Kyle of Lochalsh line - as featured in Michael Palin's original Great Railway Journeys TV series - has spectacular views, passing Loch Carron, the Cullin Hills and the Isle of Skye - enjoy a return trip on the train and a visit to Skye. We also include a ride on the Strathspey Steam Railway; a visit to Loch Ness, with the option of a loch cruise; and a Highlands coach tour with a whisky distillery visit.

INCLUDED: Escorted throughout from London
• Return rail travel from London to Aviemore • 5 nights at a 3-star hotel in the Highlands with 5 dinners and 5 breakfasts • Rail excursion to Kyle of Lochalsh • Visit to the Isle of Skye • Ride on the Strathspey railway • All transfers & touring in Scotland



BRAEMAR GATHERING & HIGHLAND STEAM

Escorted Holiday by Rail
6 days, half board, **£609pp**
Departs 4 September, 2014

QUOTE:
BG9-KOS

Since 1848 the world-famous Braemar Gathering has been regularly attended by the reigning Monarch (as the Chieftain of the gathering) and members of the Royal Family. We will visit the gathering with reserved seating. We also tour the Trossachs, cruise on Loch Katrine; ride the Strathspey Steam Railway and visit Queens View and Pitlochry.

INCLUDED: Escorted throughout from London
• Return rail travel from London to Pitlochry • 5 nights at a 3-star hotel in Perthshire • 5 breakfasts and 5 dinners • Loch Katrine Cruise • Ride on the Strathspey Railway • Entry to Braemar Gathering - seated in open stand • All transfers & touring in Scotland

Note: Attendance by the Queen and Prince Charles not guaranteed



RHINE & MOSELLE RIVER CRUISE

Escorted Rail or Fly Cruise
8 days, full board, from **£699pp**
Departs 3 August, 2014; 31 May & 28 June, 2015

QUOTE:
RH8/5/6-KOS

Join us for a relaxing river cruise taking-in the majestic Rhine and Moselle Valleys where we visit Andernach, Cochem, Boppard, Rudesheim, Koblenz and Konigswinter. Travel by rail from London or by air from a choice of UK airports to join the cruise in Cologne. Our river cruiser, the Prinses Christina, will host you in comfort and style with breakfast, lunch, dinner and late snacks included.

INCLUDED: Escorted throughout • Rail travel from London St Pancras to Cologne (from Ebbsfleet on request) or flights with luggage from Gatwick - supp't may apply • 7 nights full-board cruise on the MV Prinses Christina sharing a twin bed outside standard cabin - upgrades available • Embarkation & departure transfers

RHINE IN FLAMES RIVER CRUISE

Escorted Rail or Fly Cruise
5 days, semi-all-inclusive, from **£649pp**
Departs 2 October, 2014

QUOTE:
RH10-KOS

This fun-packed Rhine cruise passes romantic hilltop castles and vineyards and visits historic riverside towns including Andernach, Rudesheim, Koblenz and Boppard where we see the Rhine in Flames festival. This spectacular pyrotechnics show features an illuminated flotilla of riverboats and curtains of fire bathing the riverbanks in a magical glow. We have chartered the mps Princess exclusively for our guests so you're assured a warm and friendly stay on board.

INCLUDED: Escorted throughout • Rail travel from London St Pancras to Cologne (from Ebbsfleet on request) or flights with luggage from Gatwick - supp't may apply • 4 nights full-board cruise on the mps Princess sharing a twin bed outside cabin - upgrades available • Beer, wine & choice of 2 Dutch spirits served at lunch & dinner and from 6pm to midnight at the bar • Captain's dinner • Entertainment • Embarkation & departure transfers



DUTCH BULBFIELDS RIVER CRUISE

Escorted Rail or Fly Cruise
5 days, full board, from **£549pp**
Departs 24 April, 2015

QUOTE:
BF4-KOS

The highlight of this cruise is an included visit to Keukenhof Gardens with its magnificent floral displays. Amsterdam offers something for everyone, with its beautiful canals, famous museums, and flower markets. On board ship it is easy to relax and unwind while some of Holland's most historic and romantic scenery slips quietly by. Our river cruiser, the MV Prinses Christina, will host you in comfort and style with breakfast, lunch, dinner and late snacks included.

INCLUDED: Escorted throughout • Rail travel from London St Pancras to Amsterdam (from Ebbsfleet on request) or flights with luggage from Gatwick - supp't may apply • 4-night full board cruise on the MV Prinses Christina sharing a twin bed outside standard cabin - upgrades available • Visit to Keukenhof Gardens • Transfers in Amsterdam

GRAND DANUBE 4-STAR RIVER CRUISE

Escorted Fly Cruise
9 days, from **£1099pp**
Departures 27 July, 17 Aug, 5 Oct, 2014; 21 Jun, 12 Jul, 14 & 21 Sept, 2015

QUOTE:
DC-KOS

Join us for a majestic cruise on the famous Blue Danube. With a tremendous variety of scenery, historic cities, romantic towns, superb architecture and cultural jewels, Europe's second longest river offers an incomparable river cruising experience. Ports of call include magnificent Vienna and Budapest with overnight stops.

INCLUDED: Escorted throughout abroad • Return flights with luggage from a choice of UK airports to Munich - supplement may apply • Overnight hotel B&B in Germany • 7 night full board cruise on the MS Serenity sharing a standard, en suite, outside twin bed cabin - upgrades available • Entertainment • Transfers Munich-Passau-Munich

Note: Price of Cruises and/or Holidays by Air subject to cabin and/or flight availability at time of booking - supplement may apply

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Update

Lexus CT200h

Price: £20,995
Driving appeal: **Not driven yet**
Image: ★★★
Space: ★★★★★
Value: ★★★★★
Running costs: ★★★★★
How green?: ★★★★★
Best rival: **VW Golf BlueMotion**

» Read more of Steve's motoring reviews in...

KENT LIFE

» For more cars visit

drive24.co.uk

Powered by **MOTORS**
Search Smart. Buy Right. .co.uk



SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE: Skoda's Tour de France specials add to what is already a very popular range – with the star being the Octavia

Tour highlights Skoda's past

The Czech car brand started out in bicycle manufacturing after being unimpressed by a German company's efforts. The rest, as they say, is history.

SIR Bradley Wiggins's victory in the 2012 Tour de France – the first Briton to pull off this feat – simply confirmed a growing love affair between the UK and the ultimate cycling test.

Significantly, this year's 3,664km Tour also starts here, in Leeds on July 5, and, if you follow the action through to the exciting finale in Paris on July 27, Skoda branding will never be far from your vision.

Skoda has been associated with cycling since co-founder Vaclav Klement bought a bicycle from a German manufacturer that, wait for it, then soon broke.

Thinking "I can do better than this", he teamed up with bike mechanic Vaclav Laurin and they began producing their own bicycles, later motorcycles, and then their first car in 1905, leading to the Skoda car brand.

But the cycling affinity never went away and the brand is currently the main sponsor of the Tour of Britain (Sept 7-14, 1,350km) while also celebrating the Tour de France with three limited editions to mark the first three race stages – all taking place in the UK.

The Tour de France (TdF) trio are versions of the Yeti, Octavia and Superb but not just badging exercises; each has adaptations with the keen cyclist in mind, complemented by 'le Tour de France' waterproof seat-



covers and bike-wheel bags, plus a centenary edition of the Rouleur Tour de France book and entry to a competition to win a VIP Tour de France experience.

Priced at £23,490, the Yeti TdF is based on the Outdoor SE 2.0-litre TDI 140PS 4x4 model.

Additional spec includes a sat-nav with DAB digital radio, keyless entry and start system, floor mats and internal bike rack.

The Superb TdF costs £28,490 and is based on the Estate Outdoor 2.0-litre TDI 140PS 4x4 and has the same enhancements as the Yeti, along with space-saver spare wheel and boot net programme.

Priced at £24,290, the Octavia TdF is based on the Estate SE 2.0-litre TDI 150PS 4x4 model. It has the same kit as the Yeti and Superb plus roof-bars and a roof-mounted bike-carrier instead of an internal one.

OK, just 198 examples of each car

are available here and you can only have the car in red, white or blue – the national colours of the UK and France – but it's clear the Czech brand's dealers will get a lot of foot traffic checking out the Yeti, Octavia and Superb ranges generally.

The brand always rides high in the customer-satisfaction polls, turning the tables on all those tired old Iron Curtain-era Skoda jokes.

Ironically, considering Vaclav Klement's experience with his German bike all those years ago, the brand has never looked back since Germany's VW started buying into the company in 1991.

Quickly reviving the Octavia model name with a smart new model based on the VW Golf, Skoda went on to produce a wide range of cars, from the aptly-named Citigo city car up to the Superb executive model.

But the Octavia – now in its third generation – remains the star. Priced from £16,310, it is available in hatchback or estate form – with the latter including an all-wheel-drive model. Keen drivers also have much respect for the vRS sporting variant (from £23,755).



Other view...

the Petrolhead

Grudgingly, I'll admit the vRS hits the spot, but I'm afraid that for me and my mates the Skoda badge still doesn't quite have it

She says

I'm still not sure about the badge, either, but I have to admit the cars look great for the money and have a fantastic reputation

the Eco-warrior

Skoda has been a big pioneer in eco motoring, with the Greenline series in particular showing the way to go on emissions and economy

Maidstone's used car supermarket

We've got the deal for you!

There's a great
deal for you

If you're looking
for choice, value
and quality then
Barnes Auto
Store has to be
on your shopping
list. With over
300 used cars from just £1999, the Auto
Store has a car for everyone. Add great
savings, affordable finance packages and
generous part exchange allowances and
the value becomes simply unbeatable.
Barnes Auto Store, your local used car
supermarket – you shop, we price drop.



13 13 Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 SE 5dr



**Now
£7,450**



**13 13 Vauxhall Corsa
1.2 SXi 3dr**

**Now
£7,450**

Cash Price	Deposit	Amount of Credit	Interest Charges	59 Monthly Payments	GMFV (Optional Final Payment)
£7,450	£Nil	£7,450	£1,053.40	£139.24	£288.24
Total Amount Payable	Borrowing Rate	Representative			
£8,503.40	1.99%	5.4%APR			



Sutton Road, Parkwood Estate, Maidstone ME15 9YF

Tel: 08442 475 291

barnesautostore.co.uk

Finance subject to status, terms and conditions apply. Please ask for further details. Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only. Further lending available if needed. Terms and conditions apply, please Barnes Auto Store for more details.



MG3



TOP MODEL ONLY
£9,999⁺



ALL-NEW ALL-YOU MG3

TOP MODEL (SHOWN) COMES WITH:

- + 16" 'DIAMOND' ALLOY WHEEL
- + REVERSE PARKING SENSORS
- + CRUISE CONTROL
- + AUTOMATIC HEADLIGHTS AND WINDSCREEN WIPERS
- + EASY ELECTRIC AIR CONDITIONING
- + LED DAYTIME RUNNING LIGHTS
- + DAB DIGITAL RADIO
- + BLUETOOTH AUDIO STREAMING
- + BLUETOOTH TELEPHONE INTEGRATION
- + SMARTPHONE AND IPOD INTEGRATION



GO PERSONAL

WITH A RANGE OF OPTIONS AND GRAPHICS PACKS WHEN YOU PAY A LITTLE MORE



MAIDSTONE MG
SUTTON ROAD
PARKWOOD ESTATE
MAIDSTONE
ME15 9YF
01622 755531

**RANGE FROM
£8,399⁺⁺**

**5 FLEXIBLE
WARRANTY**
UP TO 5 YEARS*



f t YouTube

*Model shown is an MG3 35Style in White On The Tiles with no optional extras at £9,999 OTR. **On the road price of £8,399 applies to the MG3 31Time with no optional extras. On the road (OTR) prices include VAT where applicable, vehicle first registration fee, delivery, number plates and 12 months' Road Fund Licence. Costs exclude optional metallic paint, accessories and graphics packages. Flexible Warranty - A 3yrs/ 60,000 mile warranty is standard on all new MG3 models. Flexible Warranty options are available only at time of vehicle purchase at an additional cost. Packages include the following options: 4yrs or 60,000 miles, 4yrs or 80,000 miles, 4yrs or 100,000 miles, 5yrs or 60,000 miles, 5yrs or 80,000 miles, 5yrs or 100,000 miles. Fuel consumption: figures shown are based on official EU test figures and are to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not reflect all driving results. Please see MG.CO.UK or ask your local dealer.

Fuel Consumption MPG (l/100km) for MG3 range: Urban 37.7 (7.5), Extra Urban 57.6 (4.9), Combined 48.7 (5.8), CO₂ Emissions 136 g/km.

Less Noddy car and more something for grown-ups, Nissan's popular motor has become a better-looking and comfortable supermini choice, feels **Steve Loader**

Nissan Micra 1.2 Tekna

Price:	£13,000
Driving appeal:	★★★★
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★
Value:	★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£30/year
Best rival:	Suzuki Swift

Kent dealers

Baileys

Canterbury 0845 058 9747

Motorline

Maidstone 01622 538538

Tun Wells 0844 371 7952

Dartford 0844 371 7946

Little Micra does some growing up



SMALL WONDER: Nissan has given its popular Micra an overhaul – making it even more of an attractive proposition

Micra's chassis and handling is weighted more to comfort – keener drivers should check out the Suzuki Swift, another import from India. Overall, though, with the new and more purposeful front and back, plus much slicker cabin, the Micra can now take the fight to the opposition. Other points already in its favour were excellent manoeuvrability for city use – it has the best turning circle in its class – and good visibility out of a glassy and spacious cabin, offering decent headroom for this class of car. This also means that ultimate load space, at 1,132 litres, with rear seats down, is one of the highest, though its 265-litre boot space is

only middling for a supermini. The interior now features a new centre console, upgraded materials and higher equipment levels, while the new £500 NissanConnect navigation and communication system comes with a 5.8-inch touchscreen display. Prices are also attractive, starting from just above the psychologically important ten-grand mark for the entry-level Visia trim and yet still bringing equipment that cash-strapped young buyers want such as aux/USB connectivity and Bluetooth, six airbags and electric windows in the front as well as electronic stability control (ESP) – air-con is a £500 option, though.

Nevertheless, it's clear that most buyers will want mid-range Acenta spec (from £11,700), delivering greater style and generous creature comforts including alloys, climate control, 60/40-split folding rear seats, electric door-mirrors, cruise-control, auto lights, front fog lamps, height-adjustable driver's seat and leather-trimmed steering with audio controls. A five-speed manual gearbox is standard, on either 1.2-litre variant, with the £1,000 option of a CVT (continuously-variable transmission) auto box – a pricey way to generate a lot of noise and fuss that also robs the non-aspirated engine, in particular, of much power.

FirstGEAR

Motoring news



108 gets the boot

PEUGEOT is stressing the 57-litre advantage in boot space (196 litres) that its new 108 city car has over the paltry 139 capacity of its predecessor – the 107. Its inability to carry much in the way of luggage or even a modest supermarket shop without ejecting a passenger and folding a rear seat, was a sore point – especially when the VW UP city car and its sister clones arrived with 251 litres.



25 years of Disco

CELEBRATING its 25th anniversary, the Land Rover Discovery has new add-ons and trim levels for its 2015 Model Year. Some come from the distinctive XXV Special Edition anniversary car, but all versions now get the new Land Rover InControl Apps, enabling safe and efficient access to essential smartphone content and in-car apps from the vehicle's touchscreen. New SE also becomes the entry trim yet brings more standard features than before.



'Abarth of Abarths'

FIAT'S sporting arm, Abarth, has revamped its racy little 500 hatchback in the wake of the prestigious Gumball 3000. The endurance road trip featured some of the most exotic supercars on its UK leg, but a fleet of little Abarths drew big cheers, too. It also marked the scorching 190bhp 695 Biposto's debut; this "most Abarth of all Abarths" has a maximum of 143mph and a 0-62mph of just 5.9 seconds

NISSAN took a long hard look at its Micra supermini last year and gave it a shake-up. And it had to, because the supermini sector has got really tough, especially as the downsizing trend has stepped up. There are some impressive value offerings, too, such as the Skoda Fabia and Suzuki Swift and that Korean duo, the Hyundai i20 and Kia Rio. To counter these, the Micra's Noddy and Toytown front end has gone, while the interior also had a major makeover to make it more competitive. Past Micras have been big hitters for the Japanese brand in the UK, especially as the distinctively-styled generations two and three were built at the brand's highly successful Sunderland plant, but tight profit margins in small cars means production of the current five-door-only generation was exported to low-labour-cost India. That kept prices sensible when it arrived in 2010, but it initially failed to have the market impact of its two predecessors.

However, it has had a potential ace up its sleeve for a while, in the form of the 98PS (97bhp) supercharged DIG-S version of the 1.2-litre petrol engine that runs across the range. Previous test drives show this delivers decent performance when required and, providing your right foot doesn't abuse that, also keeps fuel consumption sensible. If you avoid the fairly charmless CVT auto, you also escape road tax due to the engine's 99g/km of CO2 emissions. Our test car, though, was the standard 80PS (78bhp) 1.2-litre, which is flexible enough yet perhaps lacks that bit of fire you need when emerging from a junction to exploit a gap in traffic.

On the other hand, Nissan does charge a hefty £1,100 premium to let you upgrade to the DIG-S. Whichever version you choose, though, it must be stressed that the

SIMPLY CLEVER

ŠKODA



3 BIG REASONS TO BUY A ŠKODA OCTAVIA

FROM
£145 PER MONTH*
0% APR[†]
REPRESENTATIVE
UP TO **3 YEARS' FREE
SERVICING****

The third generation ŠKODA Octavia

Range features include:

- > Body coloured mirrors and handles
- > Electric windows and mirrors
- > Manual air conditioning
- > Remote central locking
- > Alloy wheels
- > Metallic paint



The ŠKODA Octavia range starts from £16,310 OTR

WHATCAR?
**Car of the
Year 2014**
Best family car

Motorline ŠKODA Canterbury
Vauxhall Ind Est.,
Westminster Road CT1 1YY
0843 658 2604
www.motorline.co.uk/skoda

Motorline ŠKODA Dartford
555 Princes Road, Dartford,
Kent DA2 6HH
0843 658 2618
www.motorline.co.uk/skoda

Motorline ŠKODA Medway
26 Hoath Lane, Wigmore
Gillingham, Kent ME8 0SW
0843 658 9764
www.motorline.co.uk/skoda

10% APR representative Solutions Personal Contract Plan offer available on selected new ŠKODA models with deposits from 0-30% subject to underwriting. *£145 monthly rate applies to Octavia Hatch 5 1.2 TSI 105PS only. OTR cash price £16,310. £4,689 deposit required to achieve advertised monthly payment based on 3 years and 10,000 miles per annum; optional final payment £6,546. Deposit shown may be higher than the minimum; a lower deposit will result in increased monthly payments. Indemnities may be required, subject to status. **3 years or 30,000 miles (whichever comes sooner) when purchased with ŠKODA Solutions Personal Contract Plan, terms and conditions apply. Over 18s in mainland UK only. Excludes Channel Islands. ŠKODA Finance, Freeport ŠKODA Finance. Terms and conditions apply. We can introduce you to a limited number of lenders to assist with your purchase, who may pay us for introducing you to them. Prices and specifications are accurate at time of print. Offers may be varied or withdrawn at any time and are not available in conjunction with any other offer. Retail sales only. Participating retailers only. Subject to availability on orders placed before 30th September 2014. Model shown is an Octavia SE with optional metallic paint (£525), 18" Golus alloys (£700) and Bi-Xenon headlights (£1,190). Model shown may vary from UK specification.

Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA Octavia Range: Urban 34.9 (8.1) to 74.3 (3.8), Extra Urban 52.3 (5.4) to 94.2 (3.0), Combined 44.1 (6.4) to 88.3 (3.2). CO₂ emissions 149 to 85g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.



FLEXIBLE: Motability buyers have the same choices as any able-bodied person, from a practical Peugeot 2008 to a supermini like the Renault Clio

Liberation through Motability

DISABLED people and their families have had their lives revolutionised by the Motability scheme.

The Government-backed operation enables them to get on the road for much less than it would cost to buy or lease a new or nearly-

new car privately and helps them with potentially costly adaptations for controls or wheelchair access.

On top of that, the scheme's regular payments can take care of everyday running costs, from insurance, maintenance and

repairs to breakdown assistance – a huge reassurance when the cost of motoring is soaring.

What is more, Motability does not insist the disabled person is the driver; the car is made available for the benefit of that person, which

means that up to two other named drivers can be on the car's insurance cover instead of the disabled person.

■ For more about this liberating scheme for disabled people, see inside this special supplement.

Lipscomb Cars Ltd
www.lipscomb.co.uk



ALFA ROMEO MiTo
0.9 TWINAIR SPORTIVA

£295 ADVANCE
PAYMENT



CHRYSLER YPSILON
1.25 5 DOOR

£NIL ADVANCE
PAYMENT

**FROM £NIL
ADVANCE
PAYMENT AT
LIPSCOMB**

**ALL CARS INCLUDE METALLIC
PAINT FREE OF CHARGE**

**CALL US TO ARRANGE YOUR
TEST DRIVE TODAY!**



FIAT 500L
1.3 M-JET 85 POP STAR MPW 7 SEATS

£NIL ADVANCE
PAYMENT



VOLVO V40
CROSSCOUNTRY D2 SE 5 DOOR

£299 ADVANCE
PAYMENT



Lipscomb Cars Ltd 01622 238389
Performance House, Forstal Road,
Aylesford, Maidstone, Kent ME20 7XA



Lipscomb Volvo 01227 208516
Central House, Ashford Road, Chartham,
Canterbury, Kent CT4 7HH



Lipscomb Fiat 01233 223079
Bridge House, Chart Road,
Ashford, Kent TN23 3HZ

Motability: all you need to know...

UP to two nominated drivers can drive a Motability vehicle, but the disabled person qualifying for the scheme does not have to be one of them.

The drivers may be friends or relatives, and parents or carers can apply on behalf of a child aged three or older.

The car only has to be used for the benefit of the disabled person, such

as a shopping trip or collecting a prescription – they don't even have to be in the car. A third insured driver can be added for a small payment.

If you receive the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance or the War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement, you can apply for a Motability lease by exchanging part or all of that allowance.

Motability is a worry-free package that includes:

- a choice of some 2,000 car models
- insurance, servicing and maintenance
- RAC breakdown assistance
- road tax
- tyre and windscreen replacement
- 60,000-mileage allowance

over three years.

Car dimensions vary: seat height, door-opening angle and storage space for wheelchairs and equipment can all affect whether the car works for you and your particular disability or not, but your local dealer can take you through a questionnaire designed to ensure the car and Motability are right for you.

Many special adaptations are

available free to help with speed and steering, signalling and safety, stowage and seating and access.

The Motability package continues to the end of your three-year lease, with a seamless transfer to your new car.

About 600,000 customers choose Motability and 97 per cent say they would recommend the scheme to their friends.



MOTABILITY MOBILITY STARS: From left... the smart and capacious Kia Carens, versatile Vauxhall Meriva MPV and the no-nonsense Skoda Fabia cover all the bases for prospective users

SIMPLY CLEVER

ŠKODA



THE ŠKODA RANGE IS AVAILABLE FROM £0 ADVANCE PAYMENT



Citigo from
£0 ADVANCE PAYMENT

Fabia from
£0 ADVANCE PAYMENT

Roomster from
£0 ADVANCE PAYMENT

Rapid Spaceback from
£0 ADVANCE PAYMENT

Rapid from
£0 ADVANCE PAYMENT

Octavia from
£0 ADVANCE PAYMENT

Yeti from
£0 ADVANCE PAYMENT

Superb from
£995 ADVANCE PAYMENT

Motorline ŠKODA Canterbury Vauxhall Ind Est., Westminster Road CT1 1YV

0843 658 2604 www.motorline.co.uk/skoda

To qualify for this offer you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance, War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement, Personal Independence Payment (PIP) or Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP). Advance Payment (AP) valid for applications to Motability until 30 September 2014. Models shown are Citigo 3 door SE 1.0 MPI 60PS manual with optional metallic paint (£490), Style Pack 2 with 15" Auriga alloys and temporary spare wheel (£550) and Winter Pack incl. front fog lights, heated front seats and electrically adjustable door mirrors (£300). Fabia Hatch shown is SE 1.2 12V 69PS manual with optional metallic paint (£525), black protective side moulding (£50), 16" Elba alloy wheels (£230), front fog lights (£170). Model shown is a Rapid Spaceback 1.2 TSI 86PS manual with optional metallic paint (£525), protective side mouldings (£75), panoramic glass roof (£700) and 17" Camelot alloy wheels (£600). Rapid shown is Elegance 1.2 TSI 105PS manual with optional metallic paint (£525) and protective side moulding (£75). Roomster shown is 1.2 12V 69PS manual with optional metallic paint (£525), front fog lights (£170), black roof rails (£230) and black protective side moulding (£50). Octavia shown is Elegance 1.6 TDI 105PS manual with optional metallic paint (£525), bi-xenon headlights, AFS and LED daytime running lights (£1,900) and 18" Golus alloy wheels (£350). Yeti shown is Outdoor Elegance 1.2 TSI 105PS manual with optional metallic paint (£525) and part-silver roof rails (£160). Superb shown is Elegance 2.0 TDI 140PS manual with optional metallic paint (£525). Selected models only available from stock. Models shown are not UK specification. Urban 21.7 (13.0) to 74.3 (3.8), Extra Urban 40.4 (7.0) to 94.2 (3.0), Combined 30.4 (9.3) to 88.3 (3.2). CO₂ emissions for the ŠKODA range 217 to 85g/km. Standard EU Test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

Worry-free means everything is included

- Use your mobility allowance
- Breakdown recovery
- Road tax and insurance
- Servicing and maintenance
- 60,000 mileage allowance
- Specialist advice



Motability
The leading car scheme for disabled people

motability.co.uk

Not sure if you qualify for a Motability car? Call 0800 953 4002

LIFE DESIGNED



RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE MEDIANAV dCi 90 S&S

Renault bass reflex sound system

Efficient ENERGY engines with low CO₂

Nil Advance Payment

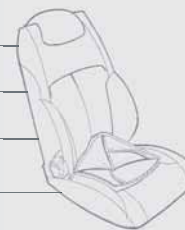


NEW RENAULT CAPTUR DYNAMIQUE MEDIANAV dCi 90 S&S

Washable, removable seat covers

New compact crossover from Renault

Nil Advance Payment



RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE TOMTOM dCi 110 S&S

Integrated TomTom LIVE satellite navigation

Bluetooth and iPod connectivity

£695 advance payment



MOTORLINE MAIDSTONE
BIRCHOLT ROAD, PARKWOOD,
MAIDSTONE ME15 9XY
TEL 0844 822 7112

MOTORLINE CANTERBURY
WESTMINSTER ROAD,
CANTERBURY CT1 1YY
TEL 0844 822 7100

MOTORLINE ASHFORD
HILTON ROAD,
ASHFORD TN23 1EW
TEL 0844 822 7094

WWW.MOTORLINE.CO.UK

BOOK A TEST DRIVE



The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the cars shown are: Urban 62.8 (4.5)–70.6 (4); Extra Urban 72.4 (3.9)–88.3 (3.2); Combined 68.9 (4.1)–83.1 (3.4). The official CO₂ emissions are 105–90g/km. EU Directive and Regulation 692/2008 test environment figures. Fuel consumption and CO₂ may vary with driving styles, road conditions and other factors. Advance payment offers are only valid for Motability applications to 30 June 2014 and are correct at time of going to press. Motability is a trademark of Motability. Registered charity number 299745.



DO YOUR RESEARCH: Motability's own website function can help find the best car for your needs, be it the chunky but exceptionally functional Skoda Yeti, left, or Renault's funky Scenic MPV

MOTABILITY'S range of more than 2,000 vehicles can seem daunting. Fortunately, the scheme's website has a search function allowing users to quickly create a short-list of comparable cars, taking account of buying parameters, mixing typical consumer searches and the specialist needs of Motability users.

Search by car details takes a consumer-style approach and includes:

- what kind of mobility allowance the user has
- what level of advance payment the user intends to pay, if anything
- preferred car type, make, model and number of doors
- whether the user wants a manual, semi-automatic or automatic gearbox
- whether the driver is under 25

Zoom in on the right car

There are two other search programmes: Search by Accessibility Needs, taking account of car measurements; and Search for a Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle.

There is also excellent advice on what type of car to look for, in language more relevant to disabled users, such as:

- how smaller two- to three-door cars generally have wider doors with larger opening angles that may make access easier but may be both harder to close generally and harder to open wide in narrow parking spaces.
- how hatchbacks have a raise-up rear door or 'hatch', which could make it harder for a wheelchair-user to open/ close or access items, or simply be problematic when opening in the garage.
- extra space in estate cars can be more convenient for a disabled person as the load area may be used to carry disability aids, but the vehicles can be longer and bulkier.

Great Motability offers from Peugeot

NEW 3008 ACTIVE 1.6 HDi 115 5 door
£499 ADVANCE PAYMENT*

- 17" alloy wheels
- Rear parking aid
- Automatic headlights and wipers
- Cruise control with speed limiter



NEW 2008 ACCESS+ 1.4 HDi 70
NIL ADVANCE PAYMENT*

- Radio CD player
- Air-conditioning
- Electric front windows
- Cruise control



PEUGEOT 3008 ACTIVE / 2008 ACCESS+

The new Peugeot 2008 Access+ is now available through Motability with NIL Advance payment. Or choose the Peugeot 3008, for an Advance payment of just £499. You'll even get insurance, breakdown cover, servicing and maintenance included for 3 years. Contact us today to find out more.

MOTION & EMOTION



MOTORLINE CANTERBURY
Broad Oak Road, CANTERBURY, CT2 7PX
01227 451791 www.motorline.co.uk/peugeot

Official Fuel Consumption in MPG (l/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km) for the 3008 range are: Urban 30.4 – 78.5 (9.3 – 3.6), Extra Urban 51.4 – 91.1 (5.5 – 3.1), Combined 40.9 – 83.1 (6.9 – 3.4) and CO₂ 159 – 88 (g/km); 2008 range are: Urban 32.1 – 68.9 (8.8 – 4.1), Extra Urban 54.3 – 78.5 (5.2 – 3.6), Combined 43.5 – 74.3 (6.5 – 3.8) and CO₂ 150 – 98 (g/km).
MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions.
*£499 and Nil Advance payment subject to availability and on selected models only. Offer available on cars ordered by 30th June 2014. Information and offers correct at time of going to press. Models shown for illustrative purposes only. For full terms & conditions, please contact the Peugeot Motability line on 0845 945 5466. Calls may be recorded for training purposes.

Motability offers you the ability to enjoy worry-free motoring

A new car every

3

years

Breakdown cover and insurance included

To find out how Motability can help you, talk to our specialist today.



Tips on making your Motability choice



GO FOR PRACTICAL OR FUN? The Renault Captur and Fiat 500L MPV are spacious but have different profiles

SMALL CARS: Tend to have lower advance payments, running costs and CO₂ emissions than larger vehicles. Two- to three-door cars generally have wider doors with larger opening angles, which makes access easier, but closing the door and fitting in narrow parking spaces may be harder. Four- to five-door cars benefit from superior back-seat access – useful if you often have more than one passenger.

MEDIUM CARS: Are often sold as hatchbacks and will have a slightly

bigger boot than a standard small car. The same doors argument applies as for small cars.

FAMILY CARS: Family cars are large four-door saloons or five-door hatchbacks and are considerably larger than medium-sized cars. Hatchbacks usually have more boot capacity.

ESTATE CARS: Usually longer than a standard saloon or hatchback, with useful space for mobility aids in the boot, but this can add to the car's

bulk, so make sure you check it out with a test drive before committing.

MULTI-PURPOSE VEHICLES (MPV): Ranging from small to large, MPVs can seat up to nine people. The seats are higher, with more headroom, legroom and width. Some have large sliding side doors, which obviously improve access for those with disabilities.

SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES (SUV) AND 4X4: The term '4x4' is usually used to describe vehicles

designed for off-road use, which generally have higher ground clearance. Until recently, all 4x4s had four-wheel-drive, but many people now buy for the SUV styling and opt for a front-wheel-drive-only version to save fuel.

COUPÉS, ROADSTERS AND CABRIOLETS: Coupés are small and sporty-looking, seating either two or four people, but may be compromised for disabled users due to their two-door format, low-down and cramped

seating and smaller boots.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE VEHICLES (WAVS): WAVs are cars converted to carry passengers travelling in their wheelchair or those who wish to drive from a wheelchair. WAVs may be best if you have trouble getting in and out of the car from your wheelchair and would prefer to remain in it when travelling as a passenger. WAVs come in different sizes and have many standard features. The Motability website has a specific WAV Search.

Motability
offers you the
ability to enjoy
worry-free
motoring

**Breakdown
cover and
insurance
included**

A new
car
every **3** years

To find out how
Motability can help
you, talk to our
specialist today.



Motability
The leading car scheme for disabled people

STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD

MOKKA EXCLUSIV

1.6i 16v VVT (115PS)
Start/Stop FWD manual

- Dual-zone electronic climate control
- Switchable electronic stability programme
- 18-inch alloy wheels
- Multi-function trip computer and cruise control
- Bluetooth® connectivity
- Six airbags
- 43.5mpg Combined fuel economy



£199
ADVANCE PAYMENT

www. **PERRYS** .co.uk

Perrys of Sittingbourne
London Road, Bapchild,
Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 9AQ
www.perrys.co.uk/sittingbourne-vauxhall
01795 393 110

Perrys of Canterbury Island Road, Sturry,
Canterbury, Kent, CT2 0EZ
www.perrys.co.uk/canterbury-vauxhall 01227 469 477

Perrys of Broadstairs Westwood Road,
Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 2NP
www.perrys.co.uk/broadstairs-vauxhall 01843 606 337

Perrys of Dover Honeywood Parkway, White Cliffs Business Park,
Whitfield, Dover, Kent, CT16 3PT
www.perrys.co.uk/dover-vauxhall 01304 249 243



VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Mokka Exclusiv: Urban – 32.5 (8.7)-52.3 (5.4). Extra-urban – 49.6 (5.7)-70.6 (4.0). Combined – 41.5 (6.8)-62.8 (4.5). CO₂ emissions 158-120g/km. #

Vehicles shown for illustrative purposes only, and may be fitted with optional equipment. Brilliant paint, metallic or pearlescent two-coat paint and parking distance sensors provided free of charge. The facilities offered are for the hire (bailment) of goods. The Motability Contract Hire Scheme is administered by Motability Operations Limited (Registered Company No. 1373876), City Gate House, 22 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 9HS. Offer available on orders or registrations between 2 April and 1 July 2014. To qualify, you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance or the Enhanced Rate of the Mobility Component of Personal Independence Payment, Armed Forces Independence Payment or War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement, which will be taken in lieu of the four weekly rental. Full written details, including terms and conditions, are available on request. All information correct at time of going to press. #Official EU regulated test data is provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other nontechnical factors.

NEED TO PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS?

WANT TO REACH OUT TO THE PEOPLE OF KENT?

To find out how we can help you,
call our media sales team on
01303 817000
or email sales@archant.co.uk

ARCHANT } KENT

**Newspapers • Magazines • Online
• Mobile and iPad**

TO ADVERTISE:

TELEPHONE: **0845 671 4460**

EMAIL: **appointments@kosmedia.co.uk**

ONLINE: **www.jobs24.co.uk/kent**



Public Sector

TO ADVERTISE:

EMAIL: **sallie.payne@archant.co.uk**



WHY ARE YOU WORKING FOR SOMEONE ELSE?

John Wright, 42, Autosmart franchisee for Slough. "I'm part of a market-leading brand. Autosmart are known throughout the motoring trade as having the best product. It's not just the automotive businesses that use our products, they're well respected in all sorts of markets. My customers even include engineers, food companies and printers."

- Join our dynamic network of franchisees
- 35 years experience helping franchisees build secure & profitable businesses
- Established business for sale in & around Canterbury, including Ramsgate & Dover.
- Sell our range of vehicle cleaning products to the trade
- No sales experience necessary
- Benefit from our award-winning training and support
- Investment required
- Average earnings £60K+

2012 BFA FRANCHISOR GOLD AWARD WINNER



Start your journey today - contact us on:

Tel: 01543 482926

www.startautosmart.co.uk



Career opportunities at MidKent College

Full Time Art & Design and .5 Graphic Design lecturers required

Two dynamic and well-established tutors in Art and Design and Graphics are required to teach within a busy department at MidKent College (Medway).

The ideal candidates should hold a teaching qualification and have experience with BTEC and vocational qualifications at levels 2 and 3.

Art and Design candidates should be able to demonstrate skills in a variety of areas including painting, drawing, printmaking, textiles and sculpting.

Graphic candidates should be fully conversant with Adobe Creative Suite and show a significant industry background.

The department has excellent resources with fully-equipped art studios and Mac suites enabling students to access industry standard equipment to support their studies.

To request and application pack please e-mail **job.applications@midkent.ac.uk** Closes 27/06/14
Salary up to £26,398 depending on qualifications and experience.



To advertise in this section

0845 671 4460 & 020 8477 3720

email **appointments@kosmedia.co.uk**



"We grow people"

"An outstanding school" (Ofsted July 2010 & October 2012)

We are currently looking for ...

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

to join and enhance our large and expanding high calibre team, commencing September 2014

Medway Scale, Grade D2

£15,189 - £19,317 pro-rata + SEN Allowance (£1,189)

Are you committed, motivated and enthusiastic? Can you make a difference?

If so, share your talents and expertise with us.

Abbey Court is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Nursery and Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties. Working hours are 32.5 p/w (8.45am - 3.45pm), term time only. Comprehensive training and induction will be provided.

Only those with childcare experience, or relevant childcare qualifications should apply.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

For an application pack, please write to/telephone (stating the role for which you are applying):

Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent. ME2 3SP (01634 338236)

Please note CVs will not be accepted.

Closing date: 9.7.14

"I found my job on jobs24.co.uk"



Stephanie
Healthcare Assistant

Find your next job in London today with **jobs24.co.uk**
IN-PAPER • ONLINE • ON MOBILE

To place
your notice
here,
call the
Kent Public Notice
team on

01303 817056

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE

Call 01303 817056 **www.kentnews.co.uk**

Be part of our successful team



Field Sales Account Manager
Plus bonus potential

Media Sales Office based Executive
Plus bonus potential

Here at Archant Kent we are looking for a Home based Field Sales Account Manager and an Office based Media Sales Executive in Ashford to support and increase business in our publications and online as we continue to grow.

We want ambitious people to join our successful sales teams and are looking for IT-literate individuals who are task focused with a good eye for detail, and a strong proven sales background. You must be able to communicate well both verbally and in writing.

If you think you have the talent we require, and you are ambitious, target driven and want to be part of our growth plans then we want to hear from you immediately.

To find out more:

www.archant.co.uk/vacancies

or email: **employment@archant.co.uk**



Kent on Sunday KENT LIFE



Westerham Road, Westerham, Kent TN16 1QN Tel:- 01959 567840
e-mail: vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk; www.valenceschool.com

STUDENT SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

Full Time and Part Time hours available (from 20 hours up to 43 per week),
Working Term Time Only, Initially one year fixed term contract.

Student Support Assistants are responsible for enabling students to learn, promoting their independence and helping them achieve. Valence is looking for committed Student Support Assistants. The job is carried out in classrooms and in the residential setting and involves supporting students' communication, providing physical management and personal care.

Successful applicants will have a relevant Level 3 qualification or be supported to complete the Children's Workforce Diploma at Level 3.

Kent Scheme Band 3 (pro-rata)

£14,963- £16,468 full time equivalent (£7.76 - £8.54 per hour) plus final salary pension

KEYWORKERS

Full Time (during school terms), Permanent.

Keyworkers are responsible for co-ordinating all aspects of personal development and individual progress for a group of key students. Valence is looking for dedicated Keyworkers, to support students in the classroom and in the residential setting, including providing physical management and personal care, enabling students to learn, promoting their independence and helping them achieve. Keeping comprehensive records is a key part of the job.

Successful applicants will have a relevant Level 3 qualification.

Kent Scheme Band 5 (pro-rata)

£17,303 - £19,031 full time equivalent (£8.97 - £9.87 per hour) plus final salary pension

LUNCHTIME SUPPORT WORKERS

Part Time - Mon to Fri, 12 noon to 14.00 (during school terms),
Working Term Time Only, Initially one year fixed term contract.

We require a team of staff to support students during the lunch period with their personal care and eating and drinking needs.

Kent Scheme Band 3 (pro-rata)

£14,963- £16,468 full time equivalent (£7.76 - £8.54 per hour) plus final salary pension

Valence School is a Kent County Council foundation all age residential and day school for children and young people with physical disabilities, complex medical needs and associated learning and communication difficulties.

Valence School is a supportive environment and a rewarding place to work. Every member of staff participates in enabling the students to learn and to aspire to achieve meaningful independence.

Valence School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of every student.

We expect all staff to share our commitment. The successful applicants will require an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Certificate.

For further information and an application form, please contact HR Department.
Previous applicants need not apply.

**Please note the closing date for applications is Monday 30th June 2014
Interviews Thursday 10th July 2014**

PLANNING



THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y14/0703/SH* - Shakespeare Centre 145 - 147 Sandgate Road Folkestone Kent CT20 2DA - External alterations to the building and erection of a first floor single storey extension to south west elevation, together with the change of use and conversion from offices to 6 No. residential flats under a class J prior notification application.

Y14/0684/SH - Flat 1 40 Castle Hill Avenue Folkestone Kent CT20 2RE - Installation of replacement uPVC windows to lower ground floor bay window.

Y14/0705/SH - 7 Earls Avenue Folkestone Kent CT20 2HW - Felling of a self set Sycamore Tree and reduction in height to 1.6 metres of a row of trees subject of Tree Preservation Order No. 20 of 2013.

Y14/0682/SH - The Manor House Five Vents Lane Old Romney Romney Marsh Kent - Listed Building Consent for replacement of existing weatherboard to west elevation to include introduction of insulation.

Y14/0663/SH - 74 Tontine Street Folkestone Kent CT20 1JP - Installation of a replacement shopfront together with other external alterations in connection with the creation of a self contained flat.

Y14/0662/SH - 42 Tontine Street Folkestone Kent CT20 1JU - Installation of replacement doors together with other external alterations to the facade.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

- The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at <http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES



AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2013/14 - SHEPWAY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Audit Commission Act 1998, sections 15-16

Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011
Regulations 9, 10, 21, 22 & 24

The council's accounts are subject to external audit by Grant Thornton UK LLP of Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, London NW1 2EP. Members of the public and local government electors have certain rights in the audit process:

- 1) From Tuesday 8th July 2014 to Monday 4th August 2014 between 9.00am and 4.30pm weekdays any person may inspect the accounts of the council for the year ended 31 March 2014 and certain related documents (comprising books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts) at the address given below. They may also make copies of the accounts and documents.
- 2) From Tuesday 5th August 2014 until the conclusion of the audit process, a local government elector for the area of the council, or his/her representative, may ask the auditor questions about the accounts. Please contact the auditor Emily Hill at the address given above to make arrangements to ask any questions.
- 3) From Tuesday 5th August 2014 until the conclusion of the audit process, a local government elector for the area of the council, or his/her representative, may object to the council's accounts asking that the auditor issue a report in the public interest (under section 8 of the Audit Commission Act 1998) and/or apply to the court for a declaration that an item in the accounts is contrary to law (under section 17 of the Audit Commission Act 1998). Written notice of a proposed objection and the grounds on which it is made must be sent to the auditor Emily Hill at the address given above and copied to me at the address given below.

Odette Collard-Woolmer, Head of Finance,
Shepway District Council,
Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY.
Contact telephone no: (01303) 853371

14 June 2014

MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009 APPLICATION FOR PLACEMENT OF ROCK REVETMENT

Notice is hereby given that NETWORK RAIL (HIGH SPEED) has applied to the Marine Management Organisation under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, Part 4, for a marine licence to undertake place rock revetment at the piers of Medway viaduct. Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Vincent Jasper, Information Centre, Community Hub Rochester, East Gate, High Street, ME1 1EW.

Copies of the Application and associated information may be viewed on line in the Public Register at www.marinemanagement.org.uk/publicregister.

Representations or objections in respect of the application should be made in writing, giving an address to which correspondence relating to the representation or objection may be sent, to the Marine Management Organisation, Lancaster House, Hampshire Court, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7YH, or alternatively emailed to dee.allen@marinemanagement.org.uk, within 28 days of Week ending 15th June 2014, quoting reference MLA/2014/00223.

The Marine Management Organisation will pass to the applicant a copy of any objection or representation we receive.

Where to find more information: Vincent Jasper, Information Centre, Community Hub Rochester, East Gate, High Street, ME1 1EW

Date that first notice was published: Week Ending 15th June 2014

Public Notice Canterbury City Council licensing of sex establishments.

The Bing, 11, Dover Street, Canterbury CT1 3HD. We, Canongate Enterprises LLP of 84, High Street, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 1JJ, hereby give notice that we have applied to Canterbury City Council under the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 for a licence to use the premises referred to above as a sexual entertainment venue.

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at: www.canterbury.gov.uk/licensing or at Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YW tel. 01227 862000 by appointment with the Business Support Team, between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Any person wishing to submit representations to our application must give notice in writing to the address shown above: giving in general terms the grounds of objection by 08/07/2014

GIS WINDOWS LTD

Require experienced

COMMERCIAL + NEWBUILD INSTALLATION TEAMS

(Van can be supplied)

Tel: Angela on 01582 494222

GIS are committed to Equal Opportunities

Wanted

Due to expansion within our nationally based company the following position has arisen

1 x self motivated

Electrically biased Site Foreman

to work within the medical pre-installation field
Must be willing to work away from home

Salary negotiable

In first instance please send cv by e-mail only to
smiller@avenuebuilding.co.uk

No agencies - No telephone calls

DMS requires Self-Employed Mortgage Arrears Field Agent in the local area

The successful applicant will be professional and have a Financial Services background, with FCA Interim Permission.

Contact Alison Bushell

on 01635 517013 or apply online
www.dmsarrearsolutions.co.uk

DMS operates an Equal Opportunities Policy.

For more Job Opportunities
visit us online at . . .

jobs24.co.uk
IN-PAPER • ONLINE • ON MOBILE

One of cricket's true greats is still fired by love of the game

There aren't many genuine icons in sport, but West Indian legend The Right Excellent Sir Garfield Sobers is without doubt one of them. Here he shares his views on cricket's past, present and future with **David Mairs**.

SOMETIMES you get to speak to someone who you can only really refer to as sporting royalty.

Sir Garfield Sobers is one of those people. The honours and accolades are too many to list, so we'll suffice here with his status as a National Hero Of Barbados, his naming in 2000 as one of the five Wisden Cricketers Of The [20th] Century and, of course, his knighthood.

He is one of the greatest and most revered cricketers the world has seen.

And in August he will be at the Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells to share his experiences of the great game, which he graced at first-class level from 1953-74.

He played 93 Tests for the West Indies, for whom he scored more than 8,000 runs and took 235 wickets – he was the consummate all-rounder and captained the side from 1965-72.

He also skippered the Rest of the World (formed to compensate Test-playing countries for the absence of South Africa during their apartheid ban) and Nottinghamshire, so how did a player expected to do so much with both bat and ball cope with that potential extra pressure?

"I never thought it would affect my game," he said. "The captaincy makes you concentrate much more because you have more responsibility – you're leading your team or your country."

"I had to go out and perform when things weren't going well – and I thought I did that. You think more about what you're doing and don't make the silly mistakes you do when you're just a player."

One of the distinguishing features of Sir Garfield's bowling was that he wasn't limited in his style. He wasn't a fast bowler, he wasn't a seam bowler – instead, he did the lot. This giant of the game could bowl pace, seam or spin.



“The captaincy makes you concentrate more because you have much more responsibility – you’re leading your team or your country”

"It depends how good you are... if you have the ability. You're just adapting to the conditions. I was orthodox left-arm before bowling really fast in Tests – I didn't start out with pace," he said.

"It's also how much you want to do for the team and if you want to put in the extra time – I was brought up in that kind of a way as a young boy."

"I wanted to be in the game, to be doing something all of the time – not just standing there wondering."

West Indies have enjoyed cyclical success in the Test arena, perhaps like most countries, but to many cricket fans of a certain vintage the decline of this once-dominant force since the early 1990s is, in the genuine sense of the word, sad.

Batsmen such as Gordon Greenidge, Clive Lloyd, Alvin Kallicharran and Sir Viv Richards, along with some of the most fearsome fast bowlers

the game has witnessed – remember Malcolm Marshall, Andy Roberts, Michael Holding and Joel Garner? – spark wonderful memories flooding back, but whether any such heights can ever be hit again is perhaps open to doubt.

Any number of words have been written about the influence of baseball and basketball – all those satellite dishes pointed towards the United States, apparently – but Sir Garfield doesn't see things so bleakly.

"One thing you must understand is that it doesn't take much for a team to not look as good as they were – it can only take two or three matches."

"It's once in a lifetime that so many players of that ability come together. It happens in every era – you have a lot of individuals who play at a very high level – and it will happen again."

"Because the stall was set so high, it meant that even if the players that followed performed to a quarter of that level, it was obvious. That is the difference."

"If a team was not that great or ahead of the others, it doesn't get noticed when there's a lesser group of players following."

"So it's quite understandable that people thought the West Indies had deteriorated so badly from the 1980s and 90s, but it was impossible to have a team that even came close to what had gone before."

Sir Garfield does, nevertheless, accept that the decline was real.

"Now we have gone backwards and we have deteriorated."

"We have the players – it's a matter of getting them organised, of getting the ability they have to come forward. But it hasn't happened yet – I don't understand why it doesn't seem to have clicked."

"Who knows, the day might come when it clicks and people will see what is there – they have a lot of players with lots of ability."

It is in the newest form of the game, Twenty20, where West Indies have enjoyed success, however, becoming ICC world champions in 2012.

Something to be celebrated, certainly, but perhaps part of the problem, too.

"It's totally different now," said Sir Garfield. "The players of today have to take part in Twenty20, 50-over games and Test cricket. It's in and out from one form to another – it's not consistent."

"In the past, there was just Test cricket, four-day matches and three-day matches – we were building all the time."

"It's a different game completely now, with so many different styles. It's switch and change, switch and change, switch and change – it must be difficult. You can't really commit to any kind of progress."

Twenty20 tends to polarise opinion, but Sir Garfield offers a measured approach to its charms.

“Other things, though, have taken away from what the game used to be like for players such as Sir Don Bradman, Denis Compton and me”

"I enjoy watching it because it's pure entertainment, but it's not really cricket in the true sense of the game. And it helps clubs at the turnstiles – without it, a lot of them might go out of circulation as not many people seem to want to watch four-day cricket."

It's good to know the views of a man who has achieved so much in his sport and you wonder which of his numerous honours he cherishes the most. That place in Wisden's top five cricketers of last century, perhaps?

"In cricketing terms, you would say that, yes, and it covers a long time, with all of the players, but when you've received a knighthood it's not just about the cricket – it's not about the fifties and the hundreds."

"It's about how you carry yourself, conduct yourself and behave. About respect. All of that is taken into consideration – when you're honoured in that way, it must be higher."

As a National Hero Of Barbados, Sir Garfield is to be addressed in his home country as The Right Excellent. How does that work in practice, especially in conjunction with the knighthood?

"I don't think a lot of people in England understand it, but the government who honoured me would address me as that. With the knighthood, it's The Right Excellent Sir."

Now, as titles go, that takes some beating, although Sir Garfield points out that Sir Viv Richards carries the same address in Antigua.

Giants of the game, both, but what does this particular one make of today's game?

"There are one or two pluses, but not a lot. TV review is ideal for run-outs, stumpings and low catches, but I'm not convinced about the technology for LBWs and catches behind."

"Other things, though, have taken away from what the game used to be like for players such as Sir Don Bradman, Denis Compton and me."

"Covered wickets, the bowler's front-foot rule, only two men behind square, two bouncers an over, two full tosses and you're removed from the attack, helmets for fielding at bat-pad... I don't see how you can make comparisons with yesteryear. There are completely different rules."



Shakey double opens up big lead in championship

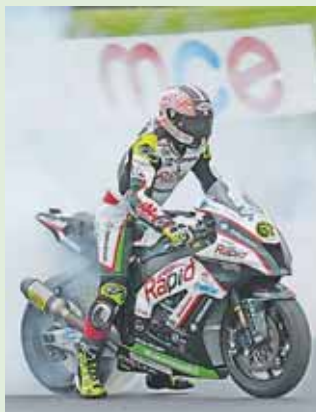
SITTINGBOURNE rider Shane 'Shakey' Byrne opened up a hefty 45-point lead in the MCE Insurance British Superbike Championship with a double victory at Snetterton at the weekend.

Byrne took his second win after Milwaukee Yamaha's Josh Brookes crashed out while battling the Kent triple champion for the lead.

The Rapid Solicitors Kawasaki racer is now on 145 points after his commanding performance at the Norfolk circuit, trailed by James Ellison (Lloyds British GBmoto Racing Kawasaki) on 100 and Brookes (Milwaukee Yamaha) on 85 points.

The fourth round of the championship runs from Friday to Sunday, June 27-29, at Knockhill in the only Scottish round of the year.

Byrne last won the title in 2012.



DOUBLE DELIGHT: Shane Byrne's double at Snetterton secured the Sittingbourne ace a 45-point lead in the British Superbike Championship



Then, Sir Garfield, with a touch of steel in his voice, turned the issue to me.

"How can you make comparisons?" he asked and demanded an answer to show there was nothing rhetorical in his question.

The principles were still the same, I ventured. Cricket was a contest between batsman and bowler, with fielders there to assist the bowler.

"You cannot say that," he said and repeated himself several times.

"It's not as simple as that. You used to be able to bowl with the field you wanted, the batsman would have to hook without a helmet and with the chance of getting quite badly hurt, a swing bowler could have four behind square whereas now he has to concentrate on off stump and is allowed

just two behind square – and that's a big area to cover."

Sir Garfield was the first man to hit six sixes in an over and his unbeaten 365 against Pakistan in 1958 stood for 36 years as the game's highest Test score, but he was an all-rounder. Hence his upset at the bowler's lot might seem a little surprising.

"The bowlers are under a lot more pressure than the batsmen now," he said. "Covers were brought in because of finances – they stopped you losing so much play to rain – but think of [Kent's] Derek Underwood and the way he could bowl on wet wickets. Remember when he bowled out Australia – do you think that could happen in this day and age?"

"You cannot just say that the game

now is the bowler, the batsman and the fielder."

Although he assured me otherwise and I'm sure it was just the passion he still clearly holds for the game, Sir Garfield sounded a little cross and I felt as though I'd been ticked off just a touch.

The honour was all mine.

■ **An Evening With Sir Garfield Sobers is at the Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, on Wednesday, August 13, at 7.30pm. Tickets are £19.50 (booking fee applies); phone 01892 530613 or visit www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk.**

■ **If you would like to book Sir Garfield as an after-dinner speaker, phone Jack Hayes on 01509 852927 or visit champions-speakers.co.uk.**

Tredwell loaned to Sussex... but will still play for Kent

KENT off-spinner James Tredwell is joining Sussex on loan for a month... but only in LV= County Championship matches.

In an unusual situation, 'Tricky Treddy' will still be playing for Kent Spitfires in the T20 Blast and Royal London Cup.

The loan period started on Saturday, June 14, and can be extended.

On the other side of the coin, Tredwell can also be recalled if Kent suffer injury problems – the agreement of the ECB would be needed for this to be actioned.

Tredwell said after the news was released: "I am delighted to be provided with this opportunity to play championship cricket.

"I am looking forward to joining up with Sussex at Arundel but also continuing to play a part in Kent's good T20 Blast campaign."



MOVE: James Tredwell

Dartford are spared the Skrill drop

DARTFORD have escaped relegation from The Skrill (Conference) Premier thanks to financial issues at another club, Salisbury City.

The Darts had finished last season third from bottom, seven points from safety, and were preparing for life in The Skrill South.

However, they were reprieved when Salisbury City were expelled from the league's top flight due to financial problems.

The expulsion followed a similar situation at Hereford United, who were relegated because of their own issues and effectively allowed Chichester City, who had finished fourth from bottom, to avoid the drop.

The Dartford board gave its response to the reprieve via a statement on the club website:

"The manner in which Dartford Football Club retained its place in the Conference Premier may not have been as satisfying for the club and supporters as it might have been but it is fair and just nevertheless.

"Whilst enormous sympathy must be felt for countless supporters and backroom staff who do so much to keep community football alive, clubs at any level which do not meet their financial or governance responsibilities – whether by accident or design – can find advantage over those that do."

Gillingham Ladies join the Priestfield set

GILLINGHAM Football Club are taking over "the management and day to day running" of the Gillingham Ladies team.

Gills chairman Paul Scally said: "I was invited to watch their match versus Coventry in May and I have to say I was very pleasantly surprised by the quality of the game and the players' technical ability.

"Despite the result, I could see there has been a huge improvement in the standard of football in the women's game overall.

"I had in my mind that I wanted to provide our own Ladies team out of the club, but after being approached by the Gillingham Ladies FC management about working closer together, it soon became clear that this is the most sensible option."

County trio miss out in world cup

KENT players Barry Middleton, Dan Fox and Ashley Jackson were to be disappointed in the Hockey World Cup as they lost 1-0 to hosts The Netherlands in their semi-final.

They then lost to Argentina 2-0 in the third-place play-off.

Australia beat The Netherlands 6-1 in the final.

Sorry Kent collapse to innings defeat

KENT suffered a dismal defeat in their LV= County Championship Division Two match against Glamorgan at Cardiff on Wednesday.

The margin of an innings and 11

runs was a fair reflection of the way in which they had been outplayed.

Kent were dismissed in their second innings for 263 and are now third from bottom in the table.

SUMMER SALE

Same day local delivery service*
*Stock items



Rimini Fabric Collection
3 seater sofa & 2 arm chairs

WAS £1398
NOW £899

SAVE £499



Fabric Electric Tilt & Rise Chair
(matching 2 seater std sofa available)

WAS £999
NOW £599

SAVE £400



Double Ortho
4 Drawer Divan Set

WAS £349
NOW £249

SAVE £100

SINGLE DIVAN BEDS FROM £99
SINGLE MATTRESSES FROM £49
DOUBLE DIVAN BEDS FROM £149
DOUBLE MATTRESSES FROM £89

High Seat Chairs FROM £199 *Hand Made Fireside Chairs - at a Glance - Chairs now available to buy online*

Choice of fabric, choice of wood colour. Matching 2 seaters available on all chairs



Simply Sofas & Beds

www.simplysofasandbeds.co.uk

call now: **01634 296905**

39 High Street, Strood, Kent

OPEN: Mon-Sat 9-5.30 Sun Closed

- Leather & fabric sofas & Sofa beds • Divans • Bedframes • Mattresses
- Wing chairs • Footstools • Headboards

SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE